FBIS DAILY REPORT

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FOREIGN MINISTERS ON SIGNING CONTADORA DOCUMENT

PA142002 Guatemala City PRENSA LIBRE in Spanish 14 Apr 86 p 6

[By Alvaro Galvez]

[Text] Any country that fails to sign the Contadora Document on 6 June will shoulder a burdensome historical responsibility, most of the Central American foreign ministers who met here to discuss the establishment of a Central American parliament have agreed.

The five foreign ministers were asked about the signing of the document, which could "be the last effort or stage of the Contadora Group's work," according to several of the ministers who were approached. Guatemala, Honduras, Costa Rica, and El Salvador have agreed to sign the document. However, Nicaragua is still examining the implications of that document.

Guatemalan Foreign Minister Mario Quinonez Amezquita explained that "our country has already sent its reply to Panama, expressing support for and confirming its agreement with the Panama Commitment and officially advising the group that Guatemala "will sign the document on 6 June."

Quinonez indicated that Guatemala "will participate in the talks preceding the signing of the document which will discuss the arms situation in the various countries." I believe, the foreign minister said, that Contadora will not fail. We hope that Nicaragua will also sign the peace document.

Meanwhile, Salvadoran Foreign Minister Rodolfo Castillo Claramount stressed that "the Salvadoran Government will never deny support to Contadora because it is working for regional peace; what we most long for."

It is clear to the Contadora Group that Honduras, Costa Rica, Guatemala, and El Salvador have every intention of signing the document within 60 days and that these countries will send their representatives to sign it on 6 June, he indicated. All of those factors respond to the Contadora Group's efforts to preserve peace and to Nicaragua's rash policies. However, a decision was reached by Contadora before the most recent meeting in Panama. It was agreed that "no obstacle, policy, behavior, or bilateral action will obstruct the signing of the document." Therefore, we will sign the document despite all the problems derived from the Nicaraguan situation.

Asked what will happen if Nicaragua refuses to sign, the foreign minister said: I believe that will have to be dealt with when it happens. We must not jump to conclusions at this time. We are confident that Nicaragua will reconsider its position and sign the document.

Costa Rican Foreign Minister Carlos Jose Gutierrez said in connection with the signing of the Contadora Document that that will be a very important moment for the future of "our peoples, because it will allow peace and cooperation to flourish in the region." We are willing to attend all the meetings to conclude the negotiations. We are eager to sign the document on 6 June. That decision was reached during a meeting of officials of the current administration of Luis Alberto Monge and the elected officials of the administration that will assume power on 8 May upon President-elect Oscar Arias' swearing in.

Costa Rica's position is very clear: We are willing to sign the document. We would like all of the area countries to sign it.

We will sign even if one of the countries does not support it, because we believe that the Contadora process should end with concrete, specific action. The only specific action that can conclude the process is signing the document for peace and cooperation in the region.

Asked if Nicaragua is reluctant to sign, Gutierrez said: I believe every government must consider the historical responsibility its decision implies. It is enough to see the support the Contadora Group process has received from all of the world's countries, including the United States, the Soviet Union, and the Vatican -- not to mention all of the Western European and Latin American countries. Whoever obstructs the Contadora process, whoever prevents regional peace being attained through the Contadora process will assume an enormous responsibility before the international community.

PRENSA LIBRE also interviewed the Nicaraguan foreign minister at the Camino Real Hotel. He issued a brief statement, indicating that "Nicaragua is being attacked." He said that various of the countries that allow the so-called contras to have support stations are partly to blame for that. He said that Nicaragua wants to contribute to peace and has supported the Contadora Group, but that the United States is seeking ways to destabilize the Sandinist government.

He said that his government is currently examining the Contadora Document in depth and that it will reach a decision about it within the next several days. We want peace, he stated, but we demand that our domestic affairs be respected.

Meanwhile Honduran Foreign Minister Carlos Lopez Contreras said that Nicaragua's radical position is the main problem for Contadora. We have traditionally worked for peace, and more so because it is the peace of the region. That is why we have vigorously participated in Contadora's efforts. We accept that group's ideas and proposals for the attainment of a stable, long-lasting peace in Central America.

We also accept the concept of reaching an overall solution to the problem. This is due to various reasons. However, I believe that the basic factor in the complexity of the Central American problems for reaching peace and harmony between our peoples is the result of a difficult situation that will not be resolved through simplistic legal or military solutions. What we mean is that that isthmus' problems, because they are complex, will not be resolved militarily, bilaterally, or through solutions imposed from abroad. Nor will they be resolved through simplistic legal or political solutions.

That is why there are four countries mediating in the conflict and why they were joined by four other countries that offered to support the Contadora negotiations. A multilateral negotiation between 13 Latin American states must be undertaken. We are seeking a Latin American solution to a problem that is in some ways part of the East-West conflict.

There have been military incidents between the military forces of the two countries. However, Honduras -- and many friendly countries can attest to this -- has been moderate and cautious in its handling of those incidents. That does not mean that Honduras' political view on the Central American problem has changed. We are aware of factors that are agitating the problem, including the arms race. The excessive military build-up is in itself a threat to Honduran security.

SOCIALIST PARTIES' MEETING OPENS IN MONTEVIDEO

PY121719 Paris AFP in Spanish 2051 GMT 11 Apr 86

[Text] Montevideo, 11 Apr (AFP) -- Delegates from Latin American, European, and Middle East socialist parties today opened the first Latin American Socialist conference in Montevideo. The conference will conclude on 13 April. The meeting, which is taking place at the headquarters of the Uruguayan Socialist Party [PSU], will tackle, among other things, the foreign debt and the regional integration, and a project to establish a permanent Latin American Socialist organization.

The meeting opened with the participation of representatives from the Argentine Popular Socialist Party (PSP), the Bolivian Movement of the Revolutionary Left (MIR), the Brazilian Democratic Labor Party (PDT), the Chilean Socialist Party, the Paraguayan Febrerista Revolutionary Socialist Party (PSR), and the Venezuelan Movement Toward Socialism (MAS). The sponsors of the meeting told AFP that they expected the arrival of more Latin American delegations and stated that observers from the GDR, Cuba, France, Israel, Mexico, Nicaragua, and the Palestinian Liberation Organization (PLO) are also attending.

PSU International Relations Secretary Jose Diaz has stated that during the meeting will examine concrete actions to promote decisive progress for the fall of the two remaining South American dictatorships, namely the Pinochet and the Stroessner dictatorships.

'Coordinating' Body Created

PY141856 Paris AFP in Spanish 1345 GMT 14 Apr 86

[Text] Montevideo, 14 Apr (AFP) -- The creation of a coordinating organization charged with promoting an exchange among Latin American socialist parties has marked the conclusion of the first political conference of Latin American socialist parties. The seat of this organization will be established on a rotational basis, and Montevideo will be its first host. Uruguayan deputy Jose Diaz will be its secretary general; Leonidas Rodriguez Figueroa of Peru its chairman; and Guillermo Estevez of Argentina its deputy chairman.

During the conference, which started on 11 April, the socialist leaders approved a by-law for this organization and discussed social, political, and economic problems affecting the region.

In its closing declaration, the conference issued a warning about the risks involved in the U.S.-Libyan confrontation which, it says, has placed the whole world on the brink of war.

FURTHER ON VISIT BY VENEZUELA'S LUSINCHI

Address to Congress

PY102358 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 1955 GMT 11 Apr 86

[Speech by Venezuelan President Jaime Lusinchi to National Congress--live]

[Text] Honorable President of the Argentine Senate; Honorable President of the Argentine Chamber of Deputies; Messrs Lawmakers: In this historic Argentine place I feel the emotion of once again meeting with the legitimate representatives of a noble, sustained, and unyielding struggle for the freedom and democracy of this nation and of the entire continent.

This is not merely a formal visit. My desire, which I am now expressing before you, is to pay tribute to a nation that has always been and will always be present in the battles for justice and freedom.

My country has achieved a stable democratic regime only after long years of struggle, suffering, and even horror for thousands of Venezuelan soldiers. This seems a simple, solemn statement. Yet it is a distressing tragedy to be immersed in terror, loneliness, and political conflict, and to find that our relatives, friends, and companions are missing and will not return.

The great Argentine people, their representatives, and their courageous and progressive government have learned from their own recent and past experience that to surrender freedom entails a great loss and that to reconquer it entails great sacrifice. From Venezuela, we have for several years followed this difficult struggle with a strong spirit of Latin American solidarity and appreciation. Ours was not a superficial feeling because we saw our own suffering reflected in the suffering of the Argentina people. The exiled citizens of this nation gave us a chance to exercise our brotherly appreciation and to receive the benefits of Argentina's cultural tradition. In Venezuela more than in any other place, the Argentina exiles were close to their fatherland, surviving and struggling to change their country, which they found to be a different, unsatisfactory nation. Seneca, the dean of exiles, said: I love my fatherland although I don't like it. This meeting at the Argentine democratic Congress is very significant for me because I am essentially a politician who has struggled for democracy and who has dedicated most of his political life to congress.

An institution that represents modern life and the national being, Congress is a stage for political struggle and also a moral reserve against oppression and injustice. It promotes democracy and the existence of political organizations and sectorial opinions. It safeguards freedom of expression and promotes respect for human rights, which are the foundation of freedom and sovereignty.

The Argentine people have shown that they are proud of the restoration of their pluralistic democracy, which they achieved with firm determination and perseverance, reflecting the strength of a national community that expresses itself through the ideas and principles that take their roots in the best Argentine traditions.

This strong determination has encouraged democratic America and has led to the fulfillment of American ideals.

The Argentine democracy means much to us, not only because the Argentine people deserve to live in democracy because of their history, their qualities, and their struggle but also because of our own democracy. Disregarding the fact that Venezuela and Argentina have many times followed different courses throughout their history, we can note something very simple: Each free country is a pillar for the others.

This is how a vast, indestructible tissue is built, isolating those who just 14 years before the end of the century are shamefully oppressing their people and giving them the kind of life which Argentines and Venezuelans consider a past experience that will never return. [applause]

This is the way it should be, for the well-being of our people and to guarantee democracy in Latin America. However, I want to point out that these are times of keeping watch, without hesitation and with prudence, over the institutionalization of the new political regime.

Sometimes the just demands appear within a comprehensible outburst, but they are sometimes dangerous because they lack strategic rationality. There are some people who legitimately ask if, in addition to the sufferings of the past, we now have to bear other less compulsive sufferings. There are others who are upset because the sufferings imposed by despotism on the majorities are not being resolved with the urgency demanded by the newborn freedom. There are others who ask themselves if it was worth so much struggle to get such poor results in the short term. I am expressing this opinion with respect, and as a Latin Americanist.

Our Venezuelan vision, formed over almost 3 decades of uninterrupted democracy, indicates that any effort to stabilize and preserve democracy is worth it. Nothing can be above democracy because only democracy can improve itself. Nothing is more valuable and rewarding than defending democracy because the injustices that persist or are recycled can be fought. Nothing is more important than its influence, because it allows the use and expansion of imagination and criticism, making it possible for the people to create new and better options. Democracy is important to those who live with it, but it becomes inalienable to those who recover it. [applause]

I recently said before the Venezuelan Congress that the crisis affecting Venezuela stems, to a large degree, from the pressures on our raw materials, from the tendency toward low prices, and that the problem of external indebtedness is creating a new phase that demands a consciencious collective effort for the sake of national progress.

This consideration is also valid if we transfer it to the international scene. It has a singular dimension in the case of Latin America because we all have similar problems, and the external factors that interfere and put pressure on our economies are also similar. In many ways this is the time for rectifications if we aspire to make a reality of our hopes for peace and understanding, which are the bases of organization and international coexistence.

In addition to the negative attitude of the centers of power it is a well-established fact that the tensions that are disturbing international relations nowadays are the result of the contradictions and conflicts of the superpowers in their efforts to maintain their dangerous domination. Domination is not only obsolete for the development of mankind but has also been proscribed by the will of the people, by reason, and by international law.

The search for a Latin American identity, the need for an expression integrating us into the prospects and possibilities of world civilization, are permanent issues in the thoughts and actions of statesmen, leaders, politicians, and intellectuals.

The truth is that, apart from the need for an identity, and concepts of integration, Latin American is constantly present and actively assuming its responsibility in all kinds of activities under different circumstances and conditions. Latin America has done its part and continues to, with the characteristics that unify and identify Latin America before the industrialized countries and in solidarity with the developing countries of other latitudes.

The political experience of the regional community, the progressive development of its institutions, and the consistency of its traditions and interests has permitted the identification of tools, measures, terms, and perspectives required for its full accomplishment.

This is not an isolated event, stemming from or expressed by phenomena involved in the East-West of the North-South relationship. It is truly a way of acting, stemming from a common history, belief, and tasks rooted in the formation of our national states and in the making of our peoples.

The Latin American community exists and develops itself because it is being upheld and advanced daily by the ideas and the actions of today's men and women.

The dynamic presence of Latin America in several fields shows us that it is mature enough to express itself as an entity with its own ideas and peculiarities vis a vis developments in a world that increasingly involves, brings together, and intertwines the nations regardless of their conditions or location.

The values that make up our national or regional heritage are intrinsic and, thus, cannot be denied.

Therefore, at a time when the world demands new ideas and the willingness to overcome the crisis involving our generation with events and consequences that are projected into the future, it is important to reach solutions while paying heed to the needs and demands of our peoples.

We are entitled to and demand that we be allowed to share equitable and fair possibilities for development.

Thus, the great question posed to every country and to the region as a whole involves a reaffirmation of our concepts, a strengthening of our agreements, a strengthening of our solidarity. We must act with a sense of opportunity and with enough skill to find the true essence of our regional identity, by reconciling interests and possibilities. The advantage of strengthening the joint presence of Latin America on the international scene is obvious.

In addition, it is profitable to diversify our trade as a community, offering each other a true scope of opportunities.

At this time, when the word colonial is archaic in the hemisphere, only the strong presence of our countries, sincerely and integrally linked with the continent's endeavor, will open a new perspective to Latin American integration.

Latin America lies ahead of us as a project and a challenge. The identity -- still evasive -- which we have sought so diligently is awaiting us and perhaps already dwells in these formidable lands of the continent and we have not yet fully noticed it. Nearly 500 years after the discovery of these lands, we are on the verge of discovering ourselves.

A common history and a dedicated search for our definition as a nation and the design of our destinies and our political, geographic, and socioeconomic integrity have made Venezuela and Argentina firm champions of anticolonialism, in solidarity on the just and historic claims against our territories which the old hegemonies and political power cliques have transferred to our times.

Within this concept, Venezuela has not hesitated to emphatically support the Argentine nation in its indisputable claim of full sovereignty over the Malvinas Islands. [applause]

The vestiges of imperialistic colonialism are an affront not only to this honorable nation that endures it but also to the independent Latin American spirit and to our century-old struggle against any type of submission.

Therefore, I cannot fail to reiterate the Venezuelan people's solidarity and my country's resolute support of this just Argentine and Latin American anticolonial claim.

Therefore I must reiterate the Venezuelan people's solidarity with and support for the just anticolonial demand from Argentina and Latin America, a demand that we will not forget. [applause] Testimonies of Argentine solidarity have already been given by the illustrious Argentine Foreign Minister Dr Luis Maria Drago, an American jurist of universal stature, who in a firm, determined, and opportune manner affirmed, as a doctrine and law, the immunity of jurisdiction that is inherent in the full exercise of the sovereignty of our states. The Drago Doctrine, upon establishing the unacceptability of using armed intervention to force states to pay debts, offered timely moral support in the international crisis that affected Venezuela early in this century. Measures such as this regain validity because the precepts on which they are based reinforce the principle of nonintervention in international economic relations, which constitutes a norm for the community of nations. The current validity of the Drago Doctrine is undeniable.

Many nations today are confronting the serious problem of the foreign debt, which contributes to the deterioration of the difficult economic situation our countries are experiencing. The foreign debt implies a new form of intervention, which is humiliating at times. I agree with the recent statements of the illustrious President Raul Alfonsin to the Group of 24, pointing out that we are immersed in a huge crisis of international cooperation, in a crisis whose main roots can be traced to the discriminatory and deflationary policies of a majority of industrialized countries to the detriment of the balance of payments of the debtor countries. We are certainly weighted down by the difficulties imposed by the economic crisis, and this forces us to adopt wholesome and rational decisions. In fact, many of our countries are burdened with the restrictions and distortions caused by a huge foreign debt, which acts as a drag on our economies. Without departing from the spirit of solidarity that is embodied in the Cartagena Consensus, each country has proceeded, according to its peculiarities, to adopt mechanisms for the restructuring of its commitments, both to straighten out its relations with the international banking system and to open a clear panorama of possibilities and limitations.

In January Venezuela signed an agreement with the creditor banks incorporating the so-called contingency clause that establishes that if our earnings in foreign currency deteriorate appreciably, and consequently the payment terms initially agreed upon jeopardize the nation's economic performance, the contingency clause will be activated. Since an appreciable deterioration of our earnings has already occurred, my government has set the mechanisms in motion for the review of the agreement in accordance with the legal provision that was established upon its signing.

I am not mentioning this mechanism as a model for any other nation, because each country will find the formula it deems appropriate to manage such a demanding and complex problem. However, it is important to stress that both Venezuela and Argentina, as well as many other brother countries, are willing to put our financial houses in order. We are determined to correct errors and to strictly comply with our commitments, but not to impose sacrifices on our peoples. [applause] With a new concept of economic development, we hope that these objectives will not be contradictory. But if the lack of conscience of the world powers in the political and economic areas should make these objectives contradictory, we will not hesitate to follow the interests of our sovereignty and independence, and our undeniable mandate to preserve the national entity. [applause]

It is time for our countries and the entire international community to stop insisting on the obligation to pay the debt, regardless of any other consideration.

The time has come for our countries and for the international community to stop addressing the debt payment as an end in itself. We have clearly stated that no country can be forced to pay more than it can afford and that payment of the debt cannot be detrimental to the basic well-being of our peoples. Furthermore, to limit ourselves to contracting fresh loans only to pay previous loans would be a clearly inadequate political move, which would become absurd if the funds thus obtained served only to pay interest on old loans. [applause]

The management of our debt should be subordinated to the economic growth and development of our countries. Otherwise, it would not benefit anyone; not even the creditor banks, which could collect their loans only if the creditor countries are prosperous. We should insist on the need to promote a broader concept, that is, to guarantee an adequate flow of funds for development, which would be instrumental in helping us overcome our economic crisis and which would thus benefit the world economy as a whole. Only this positive, sound, broad approach will allow us -- creditor and debtor countries, and international banks as well -- to have an effective, lasting solution to the chronic debt problem.

We endeavor to strengthen our economies and to further our regional contacts so that we can increase our trade of goods and services. Thus, we are expanding existing channels for promoting production and trade in an effort to diversify our economies, to overcome unemployment, and to build a better future. We intend to achieve these objectives not only by expanding and diversifying our bilateral relations but also through regional organizations and associations, such as the OAS, SELA, and ALADI, among other instruments designed to bring together all Latin American countries and to implement their will.

We seek to materialize the much-discussed solidarity. The risks and imbalances of the world economy are evident; its content is also awesome. Equally awesome are our geopolitical relations, which are plagued with serious difficulties and imbalances because they are based to a large extent on power politics that disregard not only the principles of international law but also the very socioeconomic realities of nations and regions. A sad example of this is the Central American crisis.

New concerns have arisen over the much-publicized Central American situation as a result of the continued implementation of policies that are based on a mistaken approach to the problem. Any piecemeal consideration of the elements and factors involved in the Central American situation aimed at emphasizing the interests of a country that seeks to pursue its own strategy, based on the significance it attaches to its security or to the influence it seeks to exert, is contrary to reason and to the legitimate aspirations of the governments and peoples of Central America. Anyone serving foreign powers or factors, no matter who he is, is disserving Central America and its desire for democracy and freedom. [applause]

The nature of the efforts undertaken by the Contadora Group, which is backed by the Support Group and encouraged by the international community, is well known. This mediating, goodwill effort was prompted by a serious danger and threat to the sovereignty, independent development, and democratic self-determination of the Central American countries. We have acted responsibly, as true Latin Americans, without bias or concealed intentions and we will continue to do so. To promote this effort to find peaceful solutions to the problems of Central America as a whole and of each individual country has been and will continue to be our goal in this peacekeeping effort.

Argentina and Venezuela share similar positions on many basic challenges facing mankind. Disarmament and a sound solution to all conflicts acquire special significance this year that has been designated the International Year of Peace.

The Latin American countries are currently confronting a serious problem that might undermine the very foundations of our society. Drug trafficking and its implications have become a political and social issue that jeopardizes the security of our peoples. Aware of this situation, we have promoted and cosponsored regional and international initiatives aimed at designing strategies and enacting appropriate measures, seeking to build a common front based on solidarity and cooperation. We believe that only a coordinated effort by the interested countries will successfully act against this serious threat to the health, welfare, and security of our peoples.

Argentina is one of the great countries of the world. It is the world's eighth largest country and has extraordinary human resources. It has vast natural resources that serve to promote development and that allow for positive expectations for its future. It has food surplus and industrial capacity for processing its raw materials. It has attained virtual self-sufficiency in the energy sector. It has a society that is undergoing changes on the basis of social equality. It has a proper atmosphere for enjoying freedom, expressing political ideas, and achieving self-fulfillment.

Only a few countries enjoy such conditions for the pursuit of happiness. All of us are expectant, wondering how the Argentine political system will deal with the demand and major goals. This matters to us from a Latin American viewpoint. That is why I have to say it. [applause]

Venezuela holds in high regard the capacity of the Argentine people, the great Argentine nation. We have common positions, concerns, and efforts. We are confident that Argentina will attain its objective of living in peace and democracy, enjoying feasible progress in an honorable, just, and free society built by its own people.

This visit reflects the close links between Venezuelans and Argentines, links which are founded on strong and promising historical, political, cultural, and economic ties, and, in one word, on their common heritage, aspirations and future.

We feel encouraged and reassured by the ideals of the American heroes. I am referring to San Martin and Bolivar, whose shared ideals nurtured the solidarity and understanding and which have emerged as an unquestionable truth that has been strengthened by time. I quote: In June 1818 the Liberator's message to the River Plate people offered the solidarity of Venezuela, proclaiming unity as the South American banner. In January San Martin, the liberator, congratulated Bolivar by saying: Defenders of the same fatherland, devoted to the same cause, and with the same feelings for the freedom of the new world.

Honorable Representatives of the Argentine Republic: I express my warm thanks and appreciation for your noble gesture of receiving me. This body reflects the feelings of all Argentine sectors. I want to thank all of you on my own behalf and on behalf of the country that I represent. To end this address, along with the fraternal Venezuelan people's message that I am conveying, let me invoke the Liberators. I will not do it because I miss the past or because I want to make a grandiloquent historical remarks, but because I want to strengthen the Liberators' vision of a united America.

I want to strengthen it with the demands that emerge from our everyday life and from our own hopes. Let us work with what we have. And we, gentlemen, do have the solidarity of the peoples to whom we belong and for whom we should work. [applause]

Let us pose this demand, which is more urgent and stronger than ever. I came here to say this and to pay tribute to the great Argentine people and to their democracy, and to ask for their solidarity for our great common task. Praise forever to Jose de San Martin and Simon Bolivar. Thank you, very much. [applause]

Joint Communique Issued

PY120325 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 0008 GMT 12 Apr 86

[Text] Buenos Aires, 10 Apr (TELAM) -- Argentine President Raul Alfonsin and Venezuelan President Jaime Lusinchi today agreed on the need to intensify actions to end conflicts, favoring the relief of tensions and promoting social and economic development of the peoples. In a joint declaration that was signed tonight at Government House, the two presidents expressed satisfaction at the increasing strength of democracy in the continent, and considered that the best tribute the region can offer to democracy is to implement its ideals of peace, justice, and freedom.

During the ceremony at the Government House, Alfonsin and Lusinchi also signed a memorandum of understanding providing for the installation of a political commission to analyze questions of common interest. Argentine Foreign Minister Dante Caputo and Venezuelan Foreign Minister Simon Consalvi also signed an agreement for bilateral economic cooperation that can be adhered to by other Latin American countries interested in multilateral integration, and another agreement creating a permanent joint commission.

The joint declaration signed by the two presidents says that the servicing of the foreign debt with its current interest rates and repayment periods, the current terms of trade, and the increasing difficulties in exportation is causing a heavy transfer of resources abroad, which postpones investments and social expenditures indispensable for the resumption of growth and the legitimate satisfaction of social demands.

Alfonsin and Lusinchi ratified their decision to work, through the regional and worldwide international organizations, for the promotion and defense of human rights, and expressed their support for the principles of legal equality, sovereignty of the states, self-determination, nonintervention, and the peaceful solution to international controversies. The Argentine and Venezuelan presidents voiced their repudiation of all forms of racial discrimination and colonialism, and agreed to maintain the process of consultation aimed at strengthening and consolidating the democratic institutions in Latin America.

Regarding the situation in Central America, the two presidents warned of the serious and unforeseen consequences for the countries of the region in the event of the failure to find an integral, peaceful, permanent, and immediate solution as laid down in the Act of Peace and Cooperation in Central America, and through this the genuine democratization of all the countries in that area.

They called upon the parties involved in the Central American conflict to show a more definite political will to reach understanding through dialogue, negotiation, relief of regional tensions, and restoration of confidence -- factors that are fundamental in culminating the Contadora peace process.

The joint communique stressed the importance for the area's pacification of the agreement reached between Costa Rica and Nicaragua to improve their relations and to establish a civilian commission for observation, prevention, and inspection of the border between the two countries. In the communique, Lusinchi reiterated his country's support for the Argentine sovereignty over the Malvinas, South Georgias, and South Sandwich Islands, and deplored the existence of this anomalous colonial situation in the American continent.

Lusinchi agreed with Alfonsin's concern over the massive British military presence in the area, including a strategic airport which seriously affects the region's peace and security, and firmly endorsed the resumption of talks between the parties involved in this century-old conflict in order to find as soon as possible a peaceful and final solution to the dispute over sovereignty of the Malvinas within the framework of the UN resolutions on this issue. The Argentine and Venezuelan presidents reasserted their deep concern over the increase of terrorism on a world scale and condemned this insane and absurd practice, regardless of its origin.

Alfonsin and Lusinchi committed their efforts within a rational framework to combat illicit and absurd drug trafficking and admitted that international cooperation will be an effective mechanism to erradicate this scourge. Alfonsin and Lusinchi expressed their concern over the slow growth of world trade and economic activity, the slump in the prices of raw materials -- especially petroleum, grain, and meat -- protectionism, and monetary and financial instability, most notably the persistence of the high levels attained by the real interest rates.

Concerning the foreign debt, Alfonsin and Lusinchi insisted on the need for political dialogue between creditors and debtors, stating that real interest rates must return to their historical values, that deadlines for settling the debt must be extended, and that prices of basic commodities must recover appropriate levels.

Alfonsin noted in the document that in the case of Argentina, the drop in the prices of agricultural and livestock products deeply affects the national economy, and the two presidents agreed to repudiate the protectionist policies and the unfair commercial practices used by the industrialized countries in the international agricultural and livestock market.

The Argentine president invited his Venezuelan counterpart to join in preparing a treaty on regional assistance for foodstuff emergencies, a proposal on which Lusinchi expressed his willingness to cooperate. In addition, they agreed to promote in Latin America a review of mechanisms aimed at strengthening regional security for the energy supply.

Alfonsin and Lusinchi emphasized the appropriateness of urging the international community to provide for the creation of effective support mechanisms as soon as possible to contribute to the promotion of the economic and social development of Bolivia to overcome the especially critical situation currently being experienced by that country.

At the conclusion of the ceremony in which the document was signed, Alfonsin said that the ties between the two countries are excellent but that even between good friends, between brothers, it is appropriate to strengthen those ties of affection. Alfonsin stated that the only thing missing was the presence of the visiting head of state to voice the affection of the Venezuelan people for the Argentine people as he is doing. Lusinchi emphasized the historical ties linking Venezuela with Argentina and the search for similar solutions to similar problems. Lusinchi stressed that he was able to find out how much the Argentine people love their liberty and democracy, how determined they are to defend them, and how the Argentine president has consolidated his leadership.

Alfonsin Speaks at Dinner

PY111730 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 0134 GMT 11 Apr 86

[Text] Buenos Aires, 10 Apr (TELAM) -- Argentine President Raul Alfonsin tonight warned that the enormous foreign debt that is burdening our economies and punishing our people is a threat to democracy in the continent. Alfonsin blamed most of the current economic problems on the unfair international economic order and said that rather than a bigger foreign debt our continent needs to stop bleeding, to stop sending enormous amounts of money to the developed countries at the expense and the misery of our people.

The president was speaking at City Hall during a dinner held for his Venezuelan counterpart, Jaime Lusinchi. In his speech, Alfonsin said that the unprecedented crisis we are experiencing can be overcome only through domestic work and international cooperation. Alfonsin went on to tell Lusinchi that his democratic country supported and encouraged those who could see the light at the end of the long tunnel of authoritarianism and violence, and he recalled Venezuelan solidarity with Argentina during the Malvinas war.

In his speech, directed mainly at the problems that the nations of the South are experiencing because of their foreign debts, the Argentine chief executive indicated that these problems can not be solved through domestic measures alone and, most certainly, require actions by the industrialized nations.

After lashing out at those who want to place the burden of the foreign debt exclusively on the shoulders of people who have nothing and never received anything, Alfonsin emphasized that if this position is accepted, we will be adding political disorder and an upsurge in violence of unfathomable consequences to economic disasters. Alfonsin stated that we are surprised that these threats are not properly understood in the developed democratic countries and recalled that at the end of World War II, the destroyed European countries benefited from assistance programs that permitted an economic recovery which soon began to yield its fruits.

The Argentine president added that Latin America's current situation is very similar to that of Europe after the war. He voiced his hope that the developed democratic countries will soon understand the political implications of the problems stemming from Latin America's foreign debt. If we take a look at the past, he said, we will see that Latin America's history has been a sequence of attempts at national and regional integration, of efforts to attain this integration and also efforts to prevent it, coming both from domestic sectors and powerful foreign interests. He emphasized: Thus, within the current world power structure, Latin America's only feasible solution is to display a strong political will to attain a high level of political, economic, cultural, scientific, and technological integration.

Regarding the Central American situation, Alfonsin clearly stated his conviction that this Latin American problem must be solved through a strictly Latin American solution stemming from the proposals of the Contadora Group. Alfonsin concluded by saying that we would display a lack of historical awareness if we failed to realize the full extent of what our people can do together. He added that the ideas of liberators Simon Bolivar and Jose de San Martin are as valid today as ever before.

Lusinchi Stresses Autonomy

PY111925 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 0152 GMT 11 Apr 86

[Text] Buenos Aires, 10 Apr (TELAM) -- Venezuelan President Jaime Lusinchi tonight asserted that the political solutions to our crisis cannot be subject to foreign arrangements responding to the interests of the great powers. The president made this statement in referring to the Central American situation, voicing his solidarity with the efforts being made by the Contadora Group and the Support Group.

Lusinchi spoke at the City Hall in response to a speech made by President Raul Alfonsin during a dinner party in his honor. Lusinchi said that nowadays economic well-being and political stability go hand in hand. The visiting president then said that the strength of civic institutions and liberty depend basically on the degree of well-being that the governments are capable of offering the people. He went on to recall the efforts made by the governments of the two countries which, with eagerness and determination, have been striving for a fair and reasonable international economic order.

Lusinchi added that this task has been based on the defense of the price of raw materials, access to the various markets on fair terms; the transfer of technology; and lastly, effective social justice. He said that we are striving to increase national productivity, seeking to become self-sufficient in basic products, with the participation of all sectors as a result of a democratic process that seeks material well-being and the spiritual peace of the people, for whom liberty and independence are cardinal values. At the end of his speech, Lusinchi referred to the links between Argentina and Venezuela, which are deep-rooted and rich, based on a common history, and inspired by the concept of continental unity.

Lusinchi, Ubaldini Meet

PY111927 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 0040 GMT 11 Apr 86

[Text] Buenos Aires, 10 Apr (TELAM) -- A possible meeting of Latin American union leaders and the strengthening of democracies in this part of the continent were the main subjects discussed tonight at the meeting between Venezuelan President Jaime Lusinchi and Saul Ubaldini, secretary general of the Argentine General Confederation of Labor [CGT].

The meeting took place at the hotel where Lusinchi is staying, and Juan Jose del Pino, head of the Venezuelan Workers Confederation [CVT], also participated. At the end of the meeting, Ubaldini said that they studied the possibility of holding a Latin American congress of union leaders, sponsored by the labor movements of several Latin American countries. Ubaldini added that the Venezuelan president showed that he knows a great deal about general Argentina subjects. The report given by Ubaldini stressed the defense of the democratic system, but also provided some details on the Argentine workers' demands.

Regarding the foreign debt, he said that they had talked about the need to promote Latin American development while preserving our interests, and about the possibility of creating a common front to face the foreign debt problem. Ubaldini concluded by saying that Del Pino, the representative of the Venezuelan workers at the meeting, extended an invitation to him to visit Venezuela, which I will do, he stated, after the problems we are now facing in our country are solved.

Economic Agreement Signed

PY121827 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 0310 GMT 12 Apr 86

[Text] Buenos Aires, 11 Apr (TELAM) -- This afternoon Argentine Foreign Minister Dante Caputo and Venezuelan Foreign Minister Simon Alberto Consalvi signed an agreement at Government House. The agreement concerns economic cooperation between the two countries and sets up a permanent mixed Argentine-Venezuelan commission. The goal is to efficiently promote the best exploitation of the productive factors, stimulate industrial complementation and integration, and promote the development of solidarity ties and economic cooperation.

In addition, it was decided to strengthen, activate and diversify trade activities, including commodities and services, seeking to correct, as much as possible, the quantitative and qualitative imbalances of reciprocal trade. The agreement's goals also include stimulating the investments in the industrial sectors aimed at exploiting the respective markets and those of third countries, and facilitate the creation and functioning of binational and multinational regional enterprises.

The agreement also contemplates a program of deregulation and the elimination of other restrictions that have a bearing on the imports of products made and coming from the signatory countries, products that are listed on the supplementary protocol. The 16-page, 41-article agreement painstakingly describes its possible applications. The duration of the agreement is 3 years, and it may be revoked only with 6 months advance notice.

The two foreign ministers also signed an exchange of notes referring to the establishment of the permanent mixed Argentine-Venezuelan commission, including the coordination, consultation, and assessment of the cooperation between the two countries in the financial, economic, commercial, cultural, scientific, and technological fields.

Lusinchi on Bilateral Ties

PY122110 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1516 GMT 12 Apr 86

[Text] Buenos Aires, 12 Apr (TELAM) -- During a press conference, Venezuelan President Jaime Lusinchi today said that the Venezuelan and Argentine economic policies are complimentary and called President Raul Alfonsin an exceptional man. Lusinchi also stated that Argentina and Venezuela are two countries that for many years have been leading the continent and called the British factual possession of the Malvinas Islands an act of piracy.

During the press conference, which was held at the Florida hall of the Plaza Hotel, Lusinchi said that the virtual "triangle" supporting the Latin American democracies, comprising Argentina, Brazil, and Venezuela, is a platform but not an exclusive triangle. Lusinchi said that we agree on need to unite all the democratized Latin American countries: Colombia, Peru, Mexico (a country Lusinchi called "the big brother"), among others, who do not have exclusive aspirations. Lusinchi also emphasized that the strengthening of these relationships is a concrete goal of the Argentine, Brazilian, and Venezuelan governments, complementing what we have been doing with other countries. The return of Brazil to democracy, with an irreversible character, is of utmost importance for the American fate, as is the return of democracy to Argentina, Lusinchi said.

A journalist asked Lusinchi what he thought about a democratic country that "publicly discusses" its policy of meddling in the destiny of other country, in this case, a Latin American country, obviously alluding to the discussions held at the U.S. Senate concerning the assistance U.S. President Ronald Reagan seeks for the Nicaraguan contras. We do not believe in a military solution. As much as we oppose U.S. intervention in Nicaragua, however, we also oppose Soviet intervention in Nicaragua, Lusinchi stated. After a moment of silence, he said: because both of them are intervening.

Concerning the trade that could take place between Venezuela and Argentina, the Venezuelan head of state said: We produce petroleum and all the hydrocarbon by-products. We have a sophisticated petroleum industry -- one of the best in the world, with its own technology and extraordinary capabilities. Petroleum is a product we could offer Argentina. At this time, Argentina is self-sufficient in petroleum, but it is self-sufficient because of low consumption. At any rate, in this field we are always willing to cooperate with this country, Lusinchi stated. Lusinchi said that Venezuela also produces albumin, which could exported to Argentina.

He said that Argentina could sell Venezuela many things, such as agricultural products. We are absurdly importing these from other countries, as well as industrial products of very good quality that Argentina could export to us. Lusinchi added that what has happened is that trade between Argentina and Venezuela was interrupted and now that the situation has been normalized there is going to be important trade with great possibilities for development in the commercial field. I believe that we can also cooperate in the technological field.

He indicated that during the meetings with President Alfonsin and his Cabinet, we set the basis for understanding that we will develop and improve our relations in the political field as well as in the economic, scientific, and cultural fields. He added that Venezuela and Argentina have complementary economic policies, which will facilitate things.

In a brief introduction, Lusinchi publicly thanked Alfonsin for the invitation, saying Alfonsin is an exceptional man. Lusinchi added: I am not saying that as a conventional expression but as the result of observation. I am perfectly convinced that the Argentine people, who have great historic astuteness, found the perfect man to lead them.

Lusinchi said that in today's world the revolutions' proposals must be very well-conceived in accordance with the possibilities and objectives and the resources available to fulfill those objectives. He added: We made many mistakes that led us to a dictatorship that lasted 10 years.

Views Falklands 'Piracy'

PY122150 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1749 GMT 12 Apr 86

[Text] Buenos Aires, 12 Apr (TELEM) -- Venezuelan President Lusinchi, who has a busy schedule with his visit to Uruguay this afternoon, accepted a suggestion from one of the members of his delegation and decided to end the press conference at the Plaza Hotel after 1 hour of open dialogue before television, recorders and flash cameras. Just before leaving, however, he held a brief dialogue with the press. During the dialogue, Lusinchi made a few comments on the British military occupation of the Malvinas Islands, which security personnel "insisted" should not be recorded.

Among other concepts, Lusinchi commented on the long history of illegal occupation of territories and colonialist policies. Finally regarding the British position, Lusinchi said that the occupation of the islands is a plain and simple act of piracy.

At the door of the conference hall, TELAM asked Lusinchi about the statement made a few days ago by Peruvian President Alan Garcia during a press conference with Argentine journalists in the San Martin Theater. On that occasion, Alan Garcia said that any act of aggression on Peru. I fully agree with the Peruvian president, said Lusinchi just before being "led" out of the hall by his guard of security agents.

Lusinchi on Drug-Terrorism Link

PY122152 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1752 GMT 12 Apr 86

[Text] Buenos Aires, 12 Apr (TELAM) -- During the last part of his press conference, Lusinchi said that the terrorists have made a historic mistake in mingling terrorism with drug trafficking because, as he said to the newsmen, they have become morally disqualified, and drug trafficking will finish them. He said that Venezuela is making great efforts to neutralize what he termed our era's most serious problem. He added that drugs, among other topics were also discussed in Argentina, as well as the need for joint efforts in fighting drug addiction, which threatens even unborn babies in the use of drugs by pregnant women.

RETIRED L.A. OFFICERS REPUDIATE U.S. BOMBING

PY150402 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0329 GMT 15 Apr 86

[Text] Buenos Aires, 14 Apr (EFE) -- Retired military officers meeting in Buenos Aires today repudiated the U.S. attack against Libya during the session that closed the second Latin American Defense Forum. The military men, who today ended their meetings which started on 11 April, harshly criticized the U.S. Government's decision to carry out military actions against Libya.

During the ceremony that closed the forum -- with the attendance of EFE -- the news about the bombing attacks was announced, and several of the officers started shouting vivas "to the countries fighting for their liberation" and slogans supporting the Tripoli government. Military officers from Bolivia, Paraguay, Argentina, Colombia, Uruguay, Chile, El Salvador, Peru, Mexico, Venezuela, Ecuador and the Dominican Republic today created the "Organization of Military Officers for Democracy, Integration and Liberation of Latin American and the Caribbean (Omidelac)."

SOURROUILLE RETURNS FROM IMF NEGOTIATIONS

PY141819 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2310 GMT 13 Apr 86

[Text] Buenos Aires, 13 Apr (NA) -- Economy Minister Juan Sourrouille today returned to Buenos Aires from the United States, where he held talks aimed at obtaining new credits for Argentina. A few minutes after his arrival, Sourrouille telephoned President Raul Alfonsin from Ezeiza International Airport.

Tomorrow Sourrouille will join the intense negotiations being held among government officials, congressmen, labor union leaders, and businessmen, seeking to achieve a multisectorial dialogue which may eventually bring about an agreement with the General Confederation of Labor [CGT] and the suspension of the stoppage scheduled by the CGT for 24 and 25 April.

Reliable sources have reported to NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS that the economy minister returned to Buenos Aires after announcing in the United States that he would tender his resignation if the unofficial talks being held among government officials, congressmen, and the CGT leaders required "a substantial modification of the Austral Plan."

Sourrouille arrived at Ezeiza International Airport at 0940, where he was welcomed by a small group of Economy Ministry officials and his closest relatives. After disembarking, the economy minister went to the airport's VIP room, from where he called the Olivos Residence and talked with President Raul Alfonsin for more than 15 minutes. Although the contents of this conversation have not been reported, it is taken for granted that Sourrouille informed the president of the results of his negotiations in the United States, which aimed at obtaining new loans from the IMF and the private banks. It is possible that Alfonsin was informing his economy minister on the state of the negotiations with union leaders and businessmen, seeking to call together an economic and social conference.

ALFONSIN APPEALS FOR L.A. INTEGRATION

PY111845 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 0710 GMT 10 Apr 86

[Text] Buenos Aires, 10 Apr (TELAM) -- President Raul Alfonsin today made a passionate appeal for Latin American economic and political integration, stating: I am convinced that the future of the continent lies in our effectiveness and determination to achieve it.

Speaking to an auditorium filled with Latin American political leaders at the opening session of a seminar on "Political Parties and Integration" held in the San Martin Theater, the Argentine president demanded a market that will truly be at the service of our growth. He stated that we have this market here, within our reach: It is Latin America. Alfonsin added: We should seek a different order for our region by first strengthening the political field so we can later consolidate the economic field.

The president concluded his message by calling for the second emancipation of Latin America. But first he made an extensive evaluation of the Latin American insertion into what he described the Western model of liberalism, socialism, and Christian socialism, ideologies on which we want to base our own type of society. Alfonsin then criticized market fascism, which he said was created by the extreme individualists of liberalism and made up of authoritarian experiments that sacrifice all freedom to economic freedom.

He also referred to socialism which, upon being crystallized dogmatically as a complete doctrine without fissures, after a long and complex historical process joined the old tradition of Eastern despotism, creating a formula for totalitarian modernization that adjures political pluralism and fundamental freedoms. The presidnet did not compare what we know as Western culture with what we call the West in the politico-military sense. Neither did he interpret our cultural links with the West as adherence to the strategy of the West.

He said that the difference between East and West disappears at the level of international relations and that the two blocs blend into an over-zealous doctrine of security, in which both ideologies abandon their principles. Alfonsin stated that Latin America feels it is part of the West but that it also knows it belongs to the economic and politically underdeveloped South. In reference to the last Tupac Amaru, Alfonsin said: I feel that I have risen from the depths of servitude to the haven of freedom.

Alfonsin also said that if democracy does not flourish or strengthen throughout the entire Southern Cone, there will not be a safe and stable world for anyone. He added that we must keep the discussion open. We Latin Americans are ready to participate in the only political concept that seems possible for the formation of a new, stable, legitimate, and ethical international order.

Alfonsin went on to say that the conditions to carry out the great transformation of the region are within our reach, but that the policies that will permit us to make significant changes in the region will not be classic policies. He said that those policies have not yet been written, adding that they must be bold. He said that the only condition to carry out a transformation is within our reach: It is the unity of the region. Alfonsin indicated that the Cartagena Consensus, the Contadora Group, and the Contadora Support Group are the nonconventional answers to the political problems that threaten our freedom, growth, and security.

Toward the end of his speech, the president pointed out that so long as we are situated at the points of friction of a world that undergoes continuous cracks and upheavals, we run the serious risk of being the adjustment variables of those economies. There is no doubt, he added, that we will be the first to be sacrificed. In fact, we already are if we consider, for example, the agricultural products war unleashed between the EEC and the United States or the drastic fall of oil prices. Alfonsin concluded by saying that these are times to face a new challenge, the challenge to carry out the second emancipation of Latin America.

CGT STOPPAGE OF 24-25 APRIL REPORTEDLY POSTPONED

PY101839 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 10 Apr 86

[Excerpts] The General Confederation of Labor [CGT] has decided to postpone the 48-hour general stoppage scheduled for 24 and 25 April, asking for a minimum wage of 120 australes for workers and pensioners. This announcement was made at the National Congress by [CGT] leaders Miguel Candore and Pedro Goyeneche after a meeting held by the CGT delegation at noon today with Senate President Victor Martinez and a group of legislators. Candore and Goyeneche stated that, in order to suspend the stoppage, the CGT is demanding a 120-australes minimum wage for workers and pensioners and the reinstatement of all the workers dismissed during the past conflicts. Candore and Goyeneche stated that the CGT is willing to overcome the problems.

CONGRESS APPROVES JOINT MANEUVERS WITH U.S.

PY111648 Paris AFP in Spanish 1428 GMT 11 Apr 86

[Text] La Paz, 11 Apr (AFP) -- Congressional sources told AFP here today that the Bolivian Congress has held a secret 4-hour meeting during which it authorized joint maneuvers by the Bolivian and U.S. Armies in Chapare (Cochabamba), in central Bolivia. These operations will be held from 26 April to 6 May. The following parties voted to approve the maneuvers: the ruling Historical Nationalist Revolutionary Movement (MNRH) of Victor Paz Estenssoro, General Hugo Banzer Suarez' Nationalist Democratic Action (ADN), Carlos Serrate Reich's Vanguard faction of the Nationalist Revolutionary Movement (MNR-V), and Luis Ossio Sanjines' Christian Democratic Party (PDC).

Antonio Aranibar Quiroga's Free Bolivia faction of the Movement of the Revolutionary Left (MIR-BL), Hernan Siles Zuazo's Nationalist Revolutionary Movement of the Left (MNRI), Roger Cortez' Socialist Party One (PS-1), the Bolivian Socialist Falange (FSB), and the Tupaj Katari Indian Movement (MITKA) voted against the maneuvers. The MIR (Movement of the Revolutionary Left) led by former Vice Presidenz Jaime Paz Zamora, now a major political party in Bolivia, chose to leave Congress without explaining whether or not it supported the maneuvers.

It has been reported that 245 U.S. troops will arrive in Bolivia for the maneuvers and that more than 1,000 Bolivian soldiers will participate in the exercise. Those who opposed the arrival of U.S. soldiers claimed that it would violate national sovereignty and represent tacit approval of Reagan's interventionist policies in Nicaragua, El Salvador, and Libya. A MITKA deputy warned that the United States and Paz Estenssoro's administration are getting ready to repress the coca farmers (who produce coca leaves, the raw component of cocaine) who live in Chapare, where the maneuvers will be held. Those in favor of the maneuvers argued that the Bolivian Army had to be modernized and that its technical training had to be updated.

COB Rejects Maneuvers

PY121502 Paris AFP in Spanish 0220 GMT 12 Apr 86

[Text] La Paz, 11 Apr (AFP) -- The Bolivian Labor Confederation (COB) today decided to reject holding joint military maneuvers by the Bolivian and U.S. Armies, calling them an attempt to trample on the country's sovereignty and intimidate the people. The trade union leaders state that the military forces seek to frighten the peasants in Chapare, central Bolivia, where the maneuvers are to take place. Coca leaf production is the income source of Chapare peasants. A COB document states that the military exercise, which is called "Bol-USA II," is in no way justified because it is to be held in central Bolivia where there is no chance of a war or aggression by a foreign power. On his part, U.S. Ambassador to Bolivia Edward Rowell has stated that the military exercise is a normal part of the relationship between the Bolivian and U.S. Armed Forces and that in no way is it an attempt to meddle in the internal Bolivian affairs. In a closed session on 11 April Congress approved the executive branch request for permission for the maneuvers despite the opposition of left-wing parties and civilian, trade union, and regional organizations. The "Bol-USA II" maneuvers will begin on 26 April and last for more than 10 days. More than 200 U.S. advisers and 1,000 elite forces of the Bolivian Army will participate.

PRESIDENT BETANCUR DEPARTS FOR NEW YORK

PA141843 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 1730 GMT 13 Apr 86

[Excerpts] Bogota, 14 Apr (DPA) -- Colombian President Belisario Betancur traveled to New York today where he will receive a UNICEF award tomorrow. The president was accompanied by his wife and a small official retinue on board the Colombian presidential plane. He will return to Bogota Monday night. In Betancur's absence, his duties will be assumed by Foreign Minister Augusto Ramirez Ocampo, who will later make an official tour of India and Egypt.

Comments on Trip, Contadora

PA150320 Bogota Radio Sutatenza Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 14 Apr 86

[Text] President Belisario Betancur is taking advantage of his trip to New York to strengthen the work of the Contadora Group and to secure an agreement between Nicaragua and the United States. [sentence as heard] During a brief conversation with the media, Betancur appeared to be relatively optimistic about the negotiations process of the Contadora Group and denied that last weekend's meeting in Panama could be called a defeat. He said that the most important aspect of the Panama meeting was that all the countries of the area were present. He noted that on Saturday, Nicaragua delivered a document stating that it is prepared to sign the Act for Peace and Cooperation before 6 June under conditions that he believes that with goodwill can be positively met.

EDITORIAL ON NICARAGUA'S RENEWED CLAIM OVER CAYS

PA142016 Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 8 Apr 86 p 4-A

[Editorial: "Contadora No Longer Counts"]

[Text] Once again the good intentions that inspired the process of Contadora regrettably crash against harsh reality. It is odd, to say the least, that each time the interested countries are about to sign a protocol, Nicaragua flies off on a tangent and creates a new incident that foils any possibility of achieving consensus. The first time, it was the problem with Urbina Lara; the second time coincided with a border attack launched by the Sandinists against Costa Rica; the third time, the Junta members chose to demand an additional protocol with the United States in which the Americans would have to promise not to attack Nicaragua; and now -- and this is very important for Colombia -- they have revived their unusual claims over San Andres and Providencia.

The bad part about this is that it could be seen coming. We did not like the way in which Nicaragua sought to freeze the alleged conflict with Colombia at the beginning of the Betancur administration, and we said as much in these columns. Knowing that Betancur could be very useful to them -- as, in fact, he has been -- Foreign Minister D'Escoto openly announced then that "for the time being" they would disregard their pretensions over the cays. In other words, the Sandinists were saying said that they would not revive the conflict so long as Colombia "behaved itself."

Colombia has done nothing but behave itself and respond to such generosity by defending Nicaragua within Contadora. For instance, no one has been able to explain satisfactorily the fact that while President Betancur has based his peace policy on dialogue and negotiation with the Colombian guerrillas, Contadora has not done the same when it comes to favoring a direct dialogue between the contras and the Sandinists. This is merely one case.

There are many other examples of Colombia's benevolent and indulgent attitude toward Nicaragua; so much so that a former colleague of the current Colombian foreign minister told him at one point that he acted more like the foreign minister of Nicaragua than of Colombia.

For the Sandinists, all this is of little consequence. The stab in the back that they have just given President Betancur toward the end of his mandate is part of their strategy. It should not be forgotten that Trotsky used to say that to consolidate the revolution any crime could be regarded as good and moral. It is a constant element of history that tyrannies and despotic regimes need an external enemy to justify their domination; when it does not exist, they simply make it up. So what Nicaragua has just done is not surprising. Underhanded games and opportunism are normal procedures for the guerrillas nurtured by Cuba and the Soviet Union. We have confirmed this right here with the Colombian guerrillas. The Sandinists are the same thing.

It remains to be seen what stand Colombia will take regarding this new action by Nicaragua and what will be the repercussions on Contadora's mummified cadaver. If we guide ourselves by past actions, we could predict a simple exchange of diplomatic notes -- as in the case of the improper Nicaraguan intervention in the seizure of the Justice Palace -- and a bucket of cold water in an effort to calm tempers and forget the issue. How much longer will our foreign relations be handled through wishful thinking rather than on specific realities?

ELN CLAIMS BOMB ATTACKS ON PARTIES' OFFICES

PA142323 Bogota Television Service in Spanish 1730 GMT 14 Apr 86

[Report by Jairo Saravia Hernandez]

[Text] Today the self-styled Army of National Liberation [ELN] claimed responsibility for attacking several main offices of the Liberal and Conservative Parties in Bucaramanga and Barrancabermeja. In Bucaramanga, seven high intensity bombs were placed in the headquarters of the Liberal and Conservative Parties. Five of these bombs exploded, causing damages of over 20 million pesos. In Cucuta and Barrancabermeja, bombs were also placed in political offices. A guard in the Avenue No 36 sector where the three offices were attacked said the following:

[Begin recording] I could see the bomb from here, at Street No 25, I went down to the liquor store to call the police, but the owner refused to call. Then I went back and the bomb's fuse was almost gone. The bomb had a fuse, and it was inside a blue knapsack hanging on a door. Then I went to ask another guard to let me use his telephone. As I was leaving, the bomb went off. I quickly ran to the corner of Avenue No 36, and then the other two bombs exploded. [end recording]

The main headquarters of Virgilio Barco campaign and parliamentary candidates Alfonso Gomez Gomez, Horacio Serpa, Eduardo Mestre, Jose Luis Mendoza, Tiberio Villareal, and of Conservative Faisal Mustafa Barbosa were totally destroyed. Bucaramanga Police Chief told Noticias 1 newscast:

[Begin recording, in progress] ...apparently belonging to the subversive ELN group, as can be surmised from the leaflets found. They placed seven bombs, five of which exploded, in several political headquarters in this city. As you can see the bombs caused heavy damage, especially to the facade of the buildings. Two bombs did not explode. Members of the GOES [Special Operations Group] police group deactivated them. [end recording]

INTERIOR MINISTER CALLS RALLY INCIDENT 'MINOR'

PY142222 Asuncion Teledifusora Paraguaya Television in Spanish 1600 GMT 14 Apr 86

[Text] Interior Minister Sabino Augusto Montanaro today described as minor the incident that took place yesterday in San Jose de los Arroyos.

[Begin recording] [Montanaro] That was a minor event that was provoked by those who attempted to hold a rally they knew was not authorized by the government because they are dissident groups that had branched off of the Radical Liberal Party, which is a recognized party but did not sponsor the rally. Despite being notified of the prohibition, they attempted to hold the rally and were dispersed. There is nothing else worth mentioning. We are certain we are defending national peace and tranquility. Those who were detained were already released this morning. Thank you.

[Unidentified reporter] Minister, couldn't the rally have been averted without striking blows?

[Montanaro] No... What blows?

[Reporter] Those reported by politicians.

[Montanaro] No, you may take a look at the appropriate medical reports. No one has been injured; no one has been wounded; no one has been seriously injured.
[end recording]

LA TARDE EDITOR SCORES 13 APRIL INCIDENTS

PY142226 Asuncion LA TARDE in Spanish 14 Apr 86 p 1

[Front page commentary entitled: "Democracy Without 'Macheteros,'" by Humberto Dominguez Dibb, owner-editor of LA TARDE]

[Text] Police yesterday prevented an opposition rally in San Jose de los Arroyos, while in Santani the Colorados of the area were able to hold a parade without any type of obstacle. In addition, people from Santani who came to San Jose de los Arroyos were able to participate with the tacit support of the police. Why is permission given to some and not to others? Our country is a country of free and democratic men, but this golden principle was not taken into account yesterday when freedom was granted to only a few. The stain is even greater when democracy and freedom are taken advantage of by the chief of the Police Investigations Department, who is the leader of the "Santani macheteros" [Colorado Party campesinos, usually sugar cane cutters and others whose main tool of trade is the machete], who demonstrated without any problem in Santani, and even in San Jose de los Arroyos. That is the sin of some people, who, believing that they are helping the country's democratic image, simply smear, mutilate, and destroy democracy. Democracy can never be obtained with "macheteros;" democracy must be obtained with the undeniable force of words and in the appropriate place: congress, where the people, through their own desire, peacefully want to do so.

H.H.D.

GARCIA DISCUSSES STRUGGLE AGAINST TERRORISM

PY141759 Lima Television Peruana in Spanish 0100 GMT 13 Apr 86

[Text] President Alan Garcia Perez today talked about his visit to the Republic of Uruguay at a press conference held at the Government Palace, shortly after his return.

[Reporter] Mr President, our country has suffered many terrorist attacks. In view of these attacks that are becoming more frequent every day, what will we do?

[Garcia] Exactly what we are doing: gradually increasing our vigilance. I will not discuss the intelligence operations that have infiltrated terrorism, because it would be foolish and naive to speak of this publicly. However, our intelligence service is working better all the time, and its actions are important. What should be understood is that terrorism has been operating for many years, slowly gaining followers, who believe in this criminal and violent doctrine. We have to face this situation and try to solve it, taking into account what is fundamental. Like the economic problem, the problem of violence is historical in the country and it will not be solved in a few months. We have to co-exist with these fanatics for a while, because there are blind criminals who are the products of indoctrination by misguiding ideological centers, as well as of the conditions of their own families. However, we have to keep fighting until we defeat them, by demonstrating that democracy is better and by making people realize where violence leads.

Certainly, we can respond in kind to the violence of terrorists, but then it would be the democrats and those who believe in civilized coexistence in progress and justice who would lose. The important point is to understand that the police are working, just as the Armed Forces are working. However, it is difficult to identify those who operate in the anonymity of a city of 6 million people. You know that a group of five or six people in one or two cars can, in one night, throw dynamite sticks at the doors of different banks. What the Peruvians must not do is to play into their hands by involving ourselves in terrorism. We must try to keep the good image of our country internationally. I have been reading Uruguayan newspapers, clippings of newspapers from recent months that the ambassador gave me, and I saw headlines reading Day of Terror in Lima, because 5 bombs exploded or a policeman was killed. Well, it would be a day of terror if there were an earthquake, wrecking the entire city of Lima. We must not fall into terrorism, as the terrorists would like it. We have to be confident that with time and patience, we will win the battle against the terrorists, who will see their numbers decrease and more of them landing in jail.

[Reporter] In that case, would you consider the possibility of extending the state of emergency and curfew for the rest of the year?

[Garcia] That will depend on the circumstances. We do not have to think that far ahead. The British say don't jump to conclusions. Let's wait 60 days and we will see...if these measures are effective or up to what point they are effective. Then we can see what complementary measures can be adopted. What I can tell you is that the Armed Forces and the organs of the Interior Ministry are working in silence. You know that many terrorist cells have been broken up and their members arrested. This has been done with due respect for our Constitution, fighting the terrorist wave that has been advancing for quite some time. And we will defeat it, because with patience but firmness, we will defeat these disbelievers in democracy.

[Reporter] The Centromin [Central Peruvian Mining Enterprise] strike is affecting the country, Mr President. What measures will be taken to solve it?

[Garcia] The solution has already been proposed by the Labor Ministry. We Peruvians must not bow to blackmail. In fact, a government that gives in to blackmail is a weak government, and I would rather quit and go home before giving in to blackmail. An agreement was signed whereby the government almost doubled salaries; that is, from the 14,000 soles per day that was offered, we ended up granting through the negotiation 26,000 soles per day. This means 700,000 soles per month in salary increases. There will be other readjustments the rest of the year. Once this agreement was signed, as the labor minister reported, terrorists or fanatics assassinated those who decided to go back to work and the strike was resumed, as blackmail to some extent. Well, if some are willing to give in to blackmail, we are not. And I believe that the first thing is not to back down in the face of blackmail, because it must be understood that salary increases, unfortunately, cannot be higher than inflation. Do not forget that in the past 8 months, inflation has been less than 50 percent, while in 8 months before this government came to power it was 175 percent. How can we then grant salary increases of 150 or 200 percent, as is asked sometimes. To grant this kind of increase we would have to take it away from the poorest. So we cannot retreat in the face of blackmail. We have a government, and if the Peruvians voted for a government on 14 April 1985 and inaugurated a new regime on 28 July, it should be understood that this government needs authority.

GOVERNMENT ASKS MORE POLICE OFFICERS TO RETIRE

PY110003 Paris AFP in Spanish 2227 GMT 9 Apr 86

[Excerpt] Lima, 9 Apr (AFP) -- It was officially announced today that the government has asked 10 Civil Guards, Republican Guards, and Investigative Police generals to retire in keeping with the reorganization under way in the police forces. Interior Deputy Minister Agustin Mantilla said that the measure is a normal procedure that has been implemented by the new police joint command in keeping with a law on reorganization.

The new purge of generals from the three branches of the national police forces brings to 1,847 the number of commanders, officers, and lower-ranking personnel retired in the wake of several reports of alleged corruption and immoral behavior among the upper echelons of the police. Mantilla, who said that the list of retired officers will be released shortly, added that the real objective of the measure is to establish a ceiling for the number of officers per rank. He emphasized that the retirement of the 10 generals will open new vacancies for further promotions. The reorganization was launched in August last year on orders of President Alan Garcia and was supposed to end in mid-March.

BRIEFS

FOOD IMPORTS PLANNED -- Agriculture Minister Remigio Morales Bermudez has announced during a television interview that Peru intends to import food worth $342 million during 1986. [Excerpt] [Lima EXPRESO in Spanish 25 Mar 86 p 4 PY]

VENEZUELAN PRESIDENT ARRIVES ON OFFICIAL VISIT

PY122042 Paris AFP in Spanish 2022 GMT 12 Apr 86

[Text] Montevideo, 12 Apr (AFP) -- Venezuelan President Jaime Lusinchi arrived in Uruguay this afternoon for a 3-day official visit. This is the last stop of his South American tour, which included Brazil and Argentina.

Lusinchi arrived at 2015 GMT at the Carrasco International Airport from Buenos Aires and was welcomed by President Julio Sanguinetti.

During his stay in Montevideo, which will last until 15 April, Lusinchi will meet with the Uruguayan president, visit ALADI, address the Congress, and sign bilateral agreements.

Uruguay and Venezuela resumed diplomatic relations in March 1985 after a 10-year hiatus that ended with the reestablishment of democracy in Uruguay.

Meets With Sanguinetti

PY130116 Paris AFP in Spanish 0052 GMT 13 Apr 86

[Text] Montevideo, 12 Apr (AFP) -- Venezuelan President Jaime Lusinchi tonight held his first working meeting with President Julio Sanguinetti within the framework of his official 3-day visit.

The meeting, which was held in Sanguinetti's private residence, was also attended by Venezuelan and Uruguayan Foreign Ministers Simon Consalvi and Enrique Iglesias, respectively.

Lusinchi and the members of his delegation will hold a second meeting with Sanguinetti tomorrow to discuss matters of mutual interest.

Dedicates Monument

PY132340 Paris AFP in Spanish 2242 GMT 13 Apr 86

[Text] Montevideo, 13 Apr (AFP) -- Venezuelan President Jaime Lusinchi today met with his Uruguayan counterpart Julio Sanguinetti within the framework of his 3-day official visit to Uruguay. The two presidents discussed issues related to bilateral relations which will be expanded in economic and cultural areas, as Lusinchi said during a speech he made this morning to Venezuelan exiles living in Uruguay.

This afternoon the Venezuelan chief executive dedicated, despite the rain, a monument to the memory of Latin American hero Simon Bolivar, on the seaside boulevard in Montevideo. Lusinchi extolled Simon Bolivar and said that he is a symbol of Latin America's struggle for freedom and unity.

Later Lusinchi attended a reception that the government hosted in his honor and then attended a welcome gathering organized by the diplomatic corps accredited to Uruguay.

Tomorrow Lusinchi will go to the Montevideo City Hall to receive the keys to the city and meet Vice President Enrique Tarigo. He will then address the Uruguayan congress.

MINISTER SAYS 'NO INFORMATION' ON BORDER INCIDENT

PA110254 Caracas Television Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 11 Apr 86

[Excerpt] Regarding an incident at the Colombian-Venezuelan border, Defense Minister Vice Admiral Andres Eduardo Brito Martinez has said that he has received no information that two Venezuelan officers were involved in the incident.

M-19 GUERRILLAS REPORTEDLY ATTACK BORDER POST

PA121326 Caracas Television Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 12 Apr 86

[Report by Martin Pacheco]

[Text] Search teams made up of Venezuelan and Colombian troops are after the armed group that attacked a National Guard post in the town of Orope, bordering on the Zulia and Tachira states. At the same time, members of the DISIP [Directorate of Intelligence and Prevention Services], Judicial Technical Police, and Military Intelligence are conducting pertinent investigations.

[Begin Pacheco recording] Seven heavily armed men and a woman who identified themselves as members of the M-19 guerrilla group who were dressed in olive green uniforms have carried out a surprise attack on the Venezuelan National Guard post in Orope, south of the the Maracaibo Lake, specifically at the border between the Tachira and Zulia states. The action took place at approximately 0200. The three soldiers who were guarding the National Guard post in Orope initially responed to the attack, and as a result of the heavy exchange of fire, distinguished soldier Gonzalo Alfonso Guerrero was killed and four of his companions were wounded. They were identified as Melvin Paz, who is out of danger, Samuel Urbina, Eladio Gutierriz, and Jairo Cardozo, who are in serious condition.

Here in Caracas, Acting Interior Minister William Davila Barrios confirmed the reports. However, he said he had no further details, given that the investigating commissions are currently at the site of the incident. In the next few hours the security commissions of the Venezuelan and Colombian Interior and Defense Ministries will ascertain which group or individuals attacked the Venezuelan National Guard post. [end recording]

GUYANESE CITIZENS ARRESTED IN CIUDAD BOLIVAR

PA121534 Paris AFP in Spanish 0527 GMT 12 Apr 86

[Text] Ciudad Bolivar, Venezuela, 11 Apr (AFP) -- Five Guyanese citizens were arrested in this city, 800 km south of Caracas, and are being investigated for allegedly being members of the Guyanese Secret Service. Police sources in Ciudad Bolivar reported that the five arrested Guyanese citizens who, because of an irregularity of the foreign office, were carrying documents identifying them as Venezuelans, are being interrogated since there is enough evidence linking them with the the Guyanese intelligence service. It was also reported that if found guilty, they will be expelled from the country.

Meanwhile, the Venezuelan officials who legalized the alleged spies' papers will be accused of treason, because they directly or indirectly collaborated against Venezuela in favor of a foriegn government. Since the end of the past century, Venezuela and Guyana have been in dispute over the rights to the Essequibo area.

GORBACHEV TO VISIT IN 1987, SHEVARDNADZE IN 1986

FL141144 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0110 GMT 14 Apr 86

[Text] Mexico City, 13 Apr (NOTIMEX) -- Diplomatic sources have reported that CPSU General Secretary Mikhail Gorbachev will visit Mexico in 1987 while Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze will do so next September. Gorbachev's trip to Mexico will be made within the framework of the Soviet leader's tour to several Latin American countries, although he will visit Mexico at the invitation of the Mexican Government. [passage indistinct]

REPORTAGE ON IPU CONFERENCE, FINAL RESOLUTION

Venezuelan on Oil Production

FL111500 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0357 GMT 11 Apr 86

[Text] Mexico City, 10 Apr (NOTIMEX) -- Despite the pressures of certain countries that belong to OPEC, Venezuela will not reduce its production of crude oil or its export platform, Anselmo Natale, Venezuelan deputy and member of the delegation that is attending the IPU Conference, has said. He said that the present crude oil price war does not benefit anyone, has not yet come to a head, and could provoke the collapse of the world financial system.

The legislator added that, under these circumstances, it is not possible to reject completely the possibility of paralyzing production as a means of waging this war. Nevertheless, such action would be an error, as it was for OPEC to try to defend crude oil prices unilaterally. Since 1979 OPEC has maintained an erroneous unilateral policy and is paralyzing production. This is an old strategy that can be dangerous if carried to extremes, he concluded.

Cuba's Aguirre on FRG Plan

FL141857 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2250 GMT 12 Apr 86

[Text] Mexico City, 12 Apr (NOTIMEX) -- The Cuban delegation has called the FRG's proposal about canceling the foreign debt of 23 poor countries positive and beneficial for developing countries. This was said by Cuban parliament member Severo Aguirre when he was interviewed within the framework of the 75th IPU Conference, which will end in this capital today.

Severo Aguirre urged all creditor countries to adopt the same stand the FRG has assumed toward Third World countries' inability to pay its debts incurred with different international financial institutions. He asserted that it is very important because this economic pressure blocks the development of weak countries which are also facing serious social and political problems. We thank the FRG and support its position, he said.

Aguirre also noted he is in favor of stopping the arms race as well as banning the use of conventional, chemical, and nulcear weapons to avoid a generalized war which no one would be able to win. He also favored the withdrawal of the Israeli delegation from the IPU because Israel continues to apply a fascist and discriminatory policy against countries such as Palestine, Libya, and others. The Cuban official asserted that the Israeli delegation immediately decided to withdraw from the conference when they were told only truths.

Panamanian Official Speaks

PA142244 Panama City Circuito RPC Television in Spanish 1730 GMT 14 Apr 86

[Text] During a plenary session of the 75th IPU meeting held in the Benito Juarez Hall [in Mexico City] Camilo Gozaine, president of the Panamanian National Assembly, referred to the international situation:

[Begin recording] Mr President, this is why we cannot simply speak in this forum about the arms buildup and fail to report what is going on in Central America. Every day we must deal with someone else's determination to use our territory, to establish bases in our country for a confrontation in Central America. We want to stress today that, in view of these demands, our defense forces have played an important role. They have not let themselves be used for an armed pacification of Central America. We also want to emphasize to you people and the world that the only solution for the conflict should be sought through negotiation and dialogue. We must prevent a solution from being imposed from without and by force by any of the powers involved in the conflict. [end recording]

Resolution Draft Approved

FL141642 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0355 GMT 12 Apr 86

[Text] Mexico City, 11 Apr (NOTIMEX) -- Parliament members of the world have approved a resolution draft demanding the parties in conflict in Central America sign the Contadora peace document and respect its measures without foreign intervention. The bill submitted by the world IPU's resolution committee urges all countries tied to Central America to facilitate the signing of the Contadora cooperation and peace document. The document also refers to the need to halt the arms race, giving special attention to the use of space, nuclear, conventional and chemical weapons, effective measures against international terrorism, elimination of tension areas in the world, and particularly the Contadora Group's peace efforts.

It also reaffirms the rights of all countries of the region to live in peace and safety, free from foreign intervention and it supports initiatives aimed at achieving regional unity in Central America through the creation of a Central American parliament or any other kind of cooperation agreement.

Regarding disarmament, the legislators expressed in the document their concern over the danger to which the space arms race subjects humankind and asserted that this kind of technology should be used to benefit humankind with peaceful purposes.

They also expressed satisfaction over the results of the Soviet-U.S. summit meeting held in Geneva aimed at achieving and speeding up disarmament negotiations to prevent a space arms race and to wipe it off the face of the earth. The legislators also said they were pleased with the understanding of the two chiefs of state to prevent and oppose a nuclear war because they are certain that a nuclear war cannot be won by anyone.

The document emphasizes the importance of regional efforts to create areas in the world free of nuclear weapons aimed at a total world disarmament with previously established agreements made between regions of the concerned countries. They make a call to all states and their parliaments to contribute with the signing of a nuclear test treaty which should be part of a broader nuclear disarmament process and not a substitute to the reduction of this kind of weapons.

The document condemns all kinds of terrorist expression, practice, or act, regardless of where it is carried out or who the perpretator is and deplored the loss of human lives caused by such incidents.

Parliament members oppose senseless acts of international terrorism and countries' making concessions to terrorists inasmuch as the international community cannot yield to those individuals' blackmail. They call for all parliaments to follow such policy. They agree that it is the obligation of the country where hostages are taken to take urgent measures to ensure their liberation and prevent future acts of this kind. The document warns the states signing agreements on terrorism to take appropriate measures to eliminate the problem by harmonizing domestic legislation with existing international agreements and by preventing that terrorist acts be planned in their countries.

They call parliaments to make sure that their countries are not used as safe territories for those individuals who promote terrorism.

They also make a call to strengthen appropriate international organizations to work toward greater safety in commercial sea and air travel.

Document Signed; Session Closes

PA141532 Mexico City XEW Television Network in Spanish 1600 GMT 13 Apr 86

[Report by Agustin Granados]

[Text] The IPU has asked the IMF to facilitate access to its resources for poor countries. Legislators from 94 countries agreed that IMF recommendations to debtor countries must have a more sensitive, flexible, and varied outlook; they should place more importance on production, growth, and development. For world legislators, it is urgent to reform the international monetary system and establish mechanisms to pay the foreign debt in keeping with the balance of payments and the economic growth of developing countries. The recommendations mentioned above are part of the most important portion of a resolution approved at the closing session of the 75th IPU meeting. The document also states that the World Bank must broaden its capacity to finance development projects and suggests that industrialized countries cooperate with the International Association for Development and Reconstruction with an initial participation of at least $12 billion. Mexican Senator Miguel Borge Martin read the resolution at the plenary meeting.

The 75th IPU meeting closed its work sessions yesterday in Mexico City. Speaking during the final session Senate leader Antonio Riva Palacio, president of the conference, expressed hope that communication and dialogue among legislators will lead to construction of a world of peace, justice, and liberty to which we all aspire.

During the morning session of its last workday the IPU elected a new board of directors. French legislator Pierre Cornillot will be the new president for a 4-year period beginning January 1987. Mexican Senator Patrocinio Gonzalez Garrido was elected vice president. Cornillot replaces Italian legislator Pio Carlo Terencio.

After 8 days of work, the IPU meeting closed. World legislators will meet again next October in Buenos Aires.

BELIZE

MINISTERS AUTHORIZE SALE OF BONDS, PASSPORTS

FL110302 Belize City THE BELIZE TIMES in English 6 Apr 86 p 4

[Text] Documentary evidence coming out from Belmopan has revealed that on February 7th 1986, the minister of foreign affairs, Mr Dean Barrow and the minister of home affairs, Mr Curl Thompson signed a letter of commitment on behalf of government agreeing to the sale of 1,000 Belize passports. The plan approved by the United Democratic Party [UDP] plan that was receiving the active consideration of the previous administration in a number of significant ways.

The People's United Party Plan

1. The previous government was considering a proposal to authorize eligible British citizens from Hong Kong who make an approved investment to be determined by the Belize Government. They would have to qualify for naturalization before being granted a Belizean passport.

2. The previous government was considering only British citizens of Hong Kong.

The UDP Plan

1. Under the proposal accepted by Barrow and Thompson, the government has decided that anyone who buys a bond is entitled to a Belize passport, and the Constitution of Belize was amended to allow this to happen.

2. The present government is opening the scheme to anybody, Hong Kong, Taiwan, Guatemala etc.

It is interesting that even before the National Assembly considered the Loans Act, both Ministers Barrow and Thompson had already agreed to the plan which has been hailed by their news organs as "a bold and imaginative scheme" to raise revenue. Yet while the previous government would have used this bold and imaginative scheme to raise funds to build schools, roads, health clinics, sporting facilities, etc., the Esquivel government is desperately gambling on this bond issue to try to cover its deficit in the budget. The letter signed by Barrow and Thompson referred to "an initial allocation of 200 blank passports already delivered" to the agent for sale. So the sale of passports has already begun.

COSTA RICA

FOREIGN MINISTER-DESIGNATE DENIES U.S. PRESSURE

PA142319 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1900 GMT 14 Apr 86

[By Wilfredo Chacon S.]

[Excerpts] San Jose, 14 Apr (ACAN-EFE) -- Rodrigo Madrigal Nieto, Costa Rican foreign minister-designate, has denied that Costa Rica has been pressured by the United States in retaliation for the stance of President-elect Oscar Arias Sanchez in opposition to the aid for the anti-Sandinists.

Pressures on the Costa Rican Government were mentioned in an article in THE WASHINGTON POST. The article stated that the president-elect has been particularly pressured into cooperating more with the U.S. policy to aid the counterrevolutionaries.

The newspaper published a statement by Elliott Abrams, U.S. assistant secretary of state for inter-American affairs, denying that the United States had pressured Costa Rica.

In San Jose, Madrigal Nieto backed up Abrams' statement and said that Abrams "is telling the truth," because during their meeting after Arias' statements Abrams "never voiced any threats or suggested that reprisals would be taken over the president-elect's opinion."

Before accompanying the president-elect on his visit to five South American countries that began today, Madrigal Nieto told the press that "the aid for the anti-Sandinists" has become tied to "the U.S. domestic policy, in which we should not participate."

According to THE WASHINGTON POST, when he was in San Jose, Abrams told current president Luis Alberto Monge that the Reagan administration was concerned over Arias Sanchez' statements.

The U.S. newspaper stated that since Abrams' trip to San Jose, the United States has been withholding economic aid from Costa Rica as a clear warning to Arias' new government.

Madrigal Nieto insisted, however, that loan disbursements for the Costa Rican Government have been suspended since October for technical reasons and not because of Arias' statements, which were made nearly 3 months later.

BRIEFS

SUPREME COURT PRESIDENT -- Miguel Blanco Quiros has been elected the new president of the Costa Rican Supreme Court. [Summary] [San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1200 GMT 10 Apr 86 PA]

EL SALVADOR

DEPUTY MINISTER COMMENTS ON REFUGEE PROBLEM

PA141940 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSKL in Spanish 1730 GMT 12 Apr 86

[Interview with Deputy Foreign Minister Ricardo Acevedo Peralta by unidentified reporter on 11 April; place not given -- recorded]

[Text] [Acevedo] I wish to send cordial greetings to YSKL and the Salvadoran people. We participated in a meeting on 9 April in Costa Rica involving representatives of the UNHCR [UN High Commissioner for Refugees], El Salvador, and Honduras to make official once and for all a tripartite commission, made up by El Salvador, UNHCR, and Honduras, which is tasked with preparing an appropriate, humanitarian, and just program to facilitate the return of Salvadoran refugees, who are in Honduran camps under the supervision of UNHCR, to El Salvador in the near future, if they so desire.

This is very important because it is in keeping with President Duarte's humanitarian and democratization policy to solve all existing problems with our neighbors and the international community through peaceful means. Therefore, the Salvadoran people should be satisfied that the tripartite commission was finally established to carry out a very important task of drafting a just, humanitarian, and appropriately structured logistics program; a program that will allow the refugees, through the unilateral expression of their will to return to our country in the near future, after the establishment of favorable conditions for their reincorporation into their fatherland's society.

[Reporter] Dr Acevedo, according to reports from Honduras, some refugees said that the Honduran Army is exerting pressure on them to abandon their camps in Colomancagua. We would also like to know whether you discussed why the UNHCR has been helping the Salvadoran guerrilla with weapons during the meeting in Costa Rica.

[Acevedo] Regarding the first question, I would like to say that the repatriation process, in keeping with the 1951 Refugees Statute that regulates UNHCR structure and activities, is emminently voluntary in nature. No person or government, regardless of whether it is the receiver, that is El Salvador, which is the country of origin in this case; or the host country Honduras; and no authority, including the UNHCR, is empowered to force refugees to leave countries where they are residing temporarily. This is an eminently humanitarian issue; it has nothing to do with political issues. Therefore, the humanist principle, which is reflected in the full text of the repatriation and refugee statute, goes against any government pressure in this regard. Claims of any pressure are invalid. In fact, this why this commission was established. This commission will be tasked, in addition to its many other important responsibilities, with preventing these kinds of problems and pressure that are not contemplated within a strict repatriation scheme.

Regarding your second question on UNHCR aid to the guerrillas through camps, we asked the host country Honduras and UNHCR to officially report to us on incidents that took place a few days ago in camps where weapons for the guerrilla were found. That is not our concern at this time, because we do not have the sovereignty to carry out an investigation. However, we want to ensure that the repatriation or refugees statute will not be degenerated and distorted; to ensure that the camps, which have an eminently humanitarian purpose, will not be used for any other purpose.

[Reporter] Dr Acevedo, was the number of refugees, mainly Salvadorans in Honduras, discussed during this meeting that involved top UN leaders and commissioners?

[Acevedo] The exact number of refugees will be determined in a census. That is one of the many problems contained in the agenda of this important tripartite commission. It will draft a logistical, strategical, and complete plan within which the identification of the refugees is the first step; this in turn will yield the official number of refugees. Unofficially, there are approximately 20,000 Salvadoran refugees in Honduras. There are also other nationals who have sought refuge in Honduras due to the current Central American conflict.

GUATEMALA

MINISTER SAYS U.S.-LIBYA CONFLICT 'WORRISOME'

PA150409 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0253 GMT 15 Apr 86

[Text] Guatemala City, 14 Apr (ACAN-EFE) -- Foreign Minister Mario Quinonez Amezquita said tonight: "The military conflict in Libya is worrisome." In a statement to ACAN-EFE, the person in charge of foreign relations in the government of President Vinicio Cerezo said: "We still do not have specific information on the U.S. attack against Tripoli."

However, any military action or armed conflict in the world "concerns us, precisely because we are trying to find peace through talks," Quinonez Amezquita said. Although the war that the United States has declared on Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi "does not directly affect our country or Central America, we must see the evidence the U.S. Government says it has on his participation in those terrorist acts."

Quinonez Amezquita added: "I think that the United States has proof of Al-Qadhdhafi's role in the West Germany attack, and so we must see it to determine if this has been a defensive action."

The foreign minister said: "Not even [U.S. White House spokesman] Larry Speakes has positively confirmed this, according to the reports I am currently receiving from Washington."

Tomorrow, when the Guatemalan Government receives confirmation of the Tripoli and Benghazi bombings, as well as the bombing of Al-Qadhdhafi's headquarters, it will issue a statement on this conflict that imperils world peace.

"I still think that it is premature to venture an opinion on the matter, regarding the military action or the reasons for launching a war, but at any rate, this is a worrisome conflict," Quinonez Amezquita said. The Vinicio Cerezo government has been listening to the U.S. television broadcasts received in Guatemala via satellite, the foreign minister confirmed.

CUSG REPORTS ON AGREEMENTS WITH PRESIDENT

PA112008 Guatemala City Radio-Television Guatemala in Spanish 0400 GMT 10 Apr 86

[Communique issued by the Guatemalan Confederation for Trade Union Unity, CUSG, in the form of a paid advertisement, dated April 1986 -- lettering, numbering of paragraphs as heard]

[Text] The Guatemalan Confederation for Trade Union Unity, CUSG, thanks the national and international press for the coverage of its activities to inform the Guatemalan people and the international community. CUSG congratulates the Guatemalan people for their decision to defend their right to a dignified life and urges them to maintain their position of demanding that they not be further sunk in destitution and poverty.

The CUSG reports that it has assume the responsibility of Guatemala with a sense of patriotism and humanity, because it is not possible for only one group to get rich at the expense of the suffering of all the people.

The CUSG also reports that it will intelligently fulfill this historic leadership role that it has assumed without compromising the people unnecessarily, because we try to bring about justice and cut down on the number of martyrs. We report to the Guatemalan people through the press that in a meeting held yesterday with President Vinicio Cerezo, he made the following commitments:

A. To apply a vigorous government policy to stop price increases by drastically applying the law on speculators, monopolizers, and horders. He will send needed complementary draft bills to the Congress of the Republic this week.

B. To draft a general tax amendment to improve wealth distribution and provide better opportunities to the masses.

C. To draft a policy to urgently solve the problem of lack of land facing small farmers.

D. To support small and medium-sized farmers to enable them to obtain low-cost agricultural inputs by creating appropriate government mechanisms and improve social aspects for popular benefit within the program for economic reorganization.

E. To approve a wage increase policy for all private sector workers based on a minimum wage similar to that granted to public employees, that is, 50 quetzales; and based on this, direct negotiations between workers and management would begin; prior to that, another meeting would be held with CUSG to learn about the final document.

F. To grant a general wage increase of 50 quetzales to all municipal workers, as was granted to other public employees.

G. To establish an easy credit assistance program for small artisans coupled with the needed technical assistance.

President Cerezo asked CUSG to suspend protest actions for 15 days in order to implement those measures.

5. The CUSG Executive Committee agrees to grant the suspension requested by President Cerezo, but clearly states that it will not abandon its commitment to the people until it achieves economic democracy and all citizens have a decent and dignified life. During the 15-day suspension of protests we will improve the organization of our ranks, but if the sectors of economic power, businessmen, industrialists, etc., as well as the government, do not satisfy the demands of the people, we will return better organized to implement our measures. In this case, that would be the total paralyzation of the country. We call on the people of Guatemala to be on the lookout for personal and press messages to coordinate a better organization with CUSG leaders.

6. CUSG states that there was no agreement regarding the main point on the economic reorganization package, that is, on the devaluation. Therefore, the confederation reserves the right to continue fighting to ensure that the Guatemalan people will not be further abused. However, we hope that the government will reflect during these 15 days and that it will apply the correct measures to upgrade the situation of poor people in this country.

7. The CUSG told the president that we disagree with the economy minister's price policy. If the minister does not come out in defense of the poor, we will be forced to ask him to resign, because this is a request being made by many in the country.

8. We express our repudiation of the repressive policy being implemented by the government minister and the police by preventing peaceful meetings, as was the case in Zacapa, Esquincla, and Totonicapan, where the police violated constitutional rights, specifically Article 33 of the Constitution.

Guatemala, April 1986

BRIEFS

RELATIONS WITH SAUDI ARABIA -- The Foreign Ministry has announced that the Governments of Guatemala and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia have issued a joint communique through which, effective today, it is decided to establish diplomatic relations between the two countries at the ambassadorial level. [Summary] [Guatemala City EL GRAFICO in Spanish 11 Apr 86 p 3 PA]

UCN NATIONAL ASSEMBLY -- The Union of the National Center, UCN, hereby reports that the members of the National Executive Committee, headed by Secretary General Jorge Carpio Nicolle, today appeared at the National Population Registry to deliver the minutes of their first National Assembly in which the National Executive Committee was elected, according to the new Political Parties Law. This is part of the legal requirements for the party's registration. [Summary] [Guatemala City Cadena de Emisoras Unidas in Spanish 0050 GMT 12 Apr 86 PA]

HONDURAS

NO OFFICIAL COMMENTS ON LIBYAN SITUATION

PA150409 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0345 GMT 14 Apr 86

[Excerpts] Tegucigalpa, 14 Apr (ACAN-EFE) -- The Honduran Government did not officially comment today on the U.S. military attack on Libya because Honduran officials are celebrating today's holiday. Today is the Day of the Americas and the Spanish Language in Honduras.

A spokesman for the presidential residence told ACAN-EFE that President Jose Azcona Hoyo and his leading collaborators have closely followed the development of events in Libya, but they will abstain from making comments because it is a matter strictly between Libya and the United States. Meanwhile, the Hondurans in general have been informed minute-by-minute of the development of U.S. actions in Libya through radio and television broadcasts.

There have been no additional or special security measures in Tegucigalpa at the usually well-protected U.S. civilian and military installations. The U.S. Embassy in Tegucigalpa announced last Thursday that extreme security measures would be adopted at their civilian and military installations for fear of Libyan terrorist attacks. It was even announced that U.S. military intelligence had intercepted messages between Tripoli and Managua ordering terrorists based in Nicaragua to attack U.S. bases in Honduras.

BRIEFS

NEW ENVOY FROM ISRAEL -- Tegucigalpa, 3 Apr (ACAN-EFE) -- President Jose Azcona Hoyo today received the credentials of Shalomo Cohen, Israel's new ambassador to Tegucigalpa. [Excerpts] [Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0408 GMT 4 Apr 86 PA]

NICARAGUA

CONTRA AID DEBATE INTENSIFIES WORLDWIDE

PA141646 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1300 GMT 14 Apr 86

["Beyond the News Reports" feature by Elgio Alvarez Montalban]

[Text] As has been announced worldwide, as 15 April draws closer, the date when the U.S. House of Representatives will discuss for the second time President Reagan's project to grant $100 million in aid to the Somozist contras, the intensity of debates regarding that issue is increasing not only in Latin America and the United States itself, but elsewhere in the world.

As a witty world policy observer pointed out with great accuracy, it seems as if universal world peace depends on whether those funds will be approved. Discussion of this issue has been intense and heated at all levels in official and private media in the United States. A poll shows that one out of every two U.S. citizens opposes that aid to Somozist mercenaries.

A recent incident involving Tip O'Neill, speaker of the House of Representatives, and Frank Ortiz, Yankee ambassador to Argentina, reflects the seriousness of a conflict that has apparently divided world public opinion into two irreconcilable sides as if world peace were at stake; and that is indeed the case.

This is so true that Radio France International, during its transmission at dawn today, carried a lengthy commentary on this topic. It announced that the EEC is growing increasingly more concerned over the rough course of the debate and the possibility that the $100 million will be approved next Tuesday, 15 April, which is also the deadline for Latin American countries to respond to the Contadora Group demand to sign the peace document on 6 June.

President Daniel Ortega Saavedra has already said that his government will respond to a peace treaty safeguarding the rights and interests of the Nicaraguan people and the Sandinist revolution. On the verge of the House of Representatives debate next Tuesday, the Latin American response appears to have taken form in a clear and categorical manner: In Buenos Aires and Montevideo, communiques were issued by Presidents Jaime Lusinchi and Raul Alfonsin on one side and Alan Garcia and Julio Maria Sanguinetti on the other; they said that if the $100 million is approved, there will be disastrous and unpredictable consequences throughout the continent.

As it awaits the decision of the U.S. legislators, Nicaragua, as reflected in the firm but flexible statements of our revolutionary government, must not harbor any illusions in this regard; quite the contrary, it must redouble efforts to strengthen defense and production; it should be prepared for the worst of eventualities.

HONDURAN ECONOMY SECRETARY ON NEGOTIATIONS

PA111459 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0300 GMT 10 Apr 86

[Report on interview with Honduran Economy Secretary Reginaldo Panting by unidentified reporter; date and place not given -- recorded]

[Text] Vice President Dr Sergio Ramirez Mercado met today with the Honduran Economy Secretary Reginaldo Panting. The meeting, which was held at Government House, was attended by Foreign Trade Minister Alejandro Martinez Cuenca. Here is the Honduran economy secretary commenting on his visit to Nicaragua:

[Begin recording] [Panting] In principle, we have the idea of a negotiation that will be called the great barter. We are now working on the mechanisms to make it operational. We could finalize this in the session that we are about to begin.

[Reporter] What does it consist of?

[Panting] Central banks in other countries will play a role in this. The duties of each one will be coordinated. Each importer and exporter will be issued their respective permits. This involves the use of the bilateral clearing house of Nicaragua and Honduras.

[Reporter] Mr Minister, a few moments ago, commenting on bilateral talks, you said you are willing to solve problems [words indistinct] factors not caused by those countries. What is the relation between this and President Azcona Hoyo's statements that he was being pressured by external forces?

[Panting] The president has been very clear. In his inauguration speech he also stated that he will maintain the best of relations with world countries and especially with Central America. Besides being a commercial mission, this is also a goodwill mission from our country to Nicaragua. We were welcomed in the best way possible. We could see the beginning of a new commercial phase [words indistinct] to allow Honduran ships to fish in Nicaraguan waters with a Nicaraguan permit. This could avert problems in the future. We hope to be able to finalize these negotiations in a satisfactory manner.

[Reporter] [Words indistinct] statement by President Azcona Hoyo that Honduras and Nicaragua are being pressured by forces aiming to a face them off in a war?

[Panting] [Words indistinct] the most important objective is to improve the relations between our countries. [end recording]

Negotiations' Results

PA111827 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1200 GMT 11 Apr 86

[Text] Foreign Trade Minister Alejandro Martinez Cuenca has reported that in 1986 Nicaragua and Honduras may reach a trade exchange of up to $10 million. He noted that Nicaragua will be able to import and export some industrial products to and from Honduras.

The permanent bilateral commission will meet to discuss the payment of these imports. They will review the import volumes so that the central banks of the two countries can review the debits that stem from these imports.

Nicaragua will import rural supply products, turpentine, sanitary napkins, cellophane paper, food grinders, shoe polish, batteries, baking powder, and other products from Honduras. In turn, Nicaragua will export gauze, cotton, caustic soda, crackers, rum concentrate [concentrado de ron], and other industrial products, Martinez Cuenca disclosed.

Honduras will continue to sell electric power to Nicaragua in 1986. The foreign trade minister said that an average of 30 to 40 million kilowatt hours per month will be purchased from Honduras. He noted that during the meeting that he held with Honduran Economy Minister Reginaldo Panting on 10 April, they agreed to continue the sale of power after negotiating the debt that Nicaragua has with Honduras that amounts to more than $5.5 million. The purchase of energy from Honduras will be carried out by our country beginning in the second half or 1986, Martinez Cuenca added, emphasizing that the total purchase will be 200 million kilowatt hours in 1986.

Nicaragua is involved in negotiations with all the Central American countries to increase its trade relations, Martinez Cuenca told this station. In this regard, he said, we have concluded negotiations with Costa Rica, a country that has shown great willingness and a good attitude toward the proposals that were presented. He added that with these commercial prospects in the region positive and beneficial agreements for the country have been reached.

WHEELOCK RETURNS FROM EUROPEAN TOUR, COMMENTS

PA111936 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1200 GMT 11 Apr 86

[Text] Commander Jaime Wheelock has returned from Europe.

Our tour of Bulgaria, Spain, and the Soviet Union has been interesting and positive for Nicaragua, Agricultural Development Minister Jaime Wheelock said yesterday upon his arrival in Managua.

Wheelock, who attended the 13th Congress of the Bulgarian Communist Party, said that he received the solidaristic help of the plenum where he was told that Bulgaria will give Nicaragua economic aid for development projects, as well as for routine needs. We will receive credits for raw materials and special credits to deal with the U.S. aggression.

He said that it was very interesting for the Nicaraguan delegation to learn at the 13th Congress of the advances of Bulgaria and other socialist countries that are going through a very important period in the development of socialism and in the change of the socialist society that will guarantee greater economic development.

The USSR and Nicaragua signed an economic agreement. The two countries also signed a scientific-technical agreement, Commander Wheelock reported. He said that the agreement was signed with the higher organization of the USSR's agricultural directorate called Agroprom. The revolutionary leader also said that the Soviet Union will supply tractors and transportation equipment for Nicaraguan agriculture for the 1986-1987 period. This equipment consists up 1,100 units, of which 840 are tractors that will be sent in April and May. In addition, the Soviet Union promised to send us a similar quantity that will arrive in the country in November and December 1987.

Wheelock stated that he met with (Mura Dushki), deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers, who expressed the firm support of his government for the Sandinist people's revolution and guaranteed firm cooperation with the plans for agriculrual and livestock development in Nicaragua.

The agricultural development minister also said that the Spanish Government and representatives of the private sector of that country are interested in developing fishing projects and projects for lumber extraction, processing, and export in Nicaragua. Wheelock, who had a very busy schedule during his visit to Spain, said that the Nicaraguan delegation held talks with several top reporesentatives of that government and members of the private sector who, at all times, expressed an interest in the Nicaraguan revolutionary process.

In general, Wheelock said that the tour of Spain, Bulgaria, and the Soviet Union was very satisfactory and fruitful for Nicaragua's economic development.

LABOR MINISTRY REITERATES BAN ON STRIKES

PA142141 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2057 GMT 14 Apr 86

[Text] Managua, 14 Apr (ACAN-EFE) -- The Nicaraguan Labor Ministry today warned that all strikes or the occupation of labor centers will be declared illegal. Labor authorities recalled the legal provisions, particularly the state of national emergency, that forbid the workers to carry out "acts of coercion" that hamper production.

The Sandinist government warned this after it authorized the police to dislodge 57 workers who carried out a labor protest in a Managua manufacturing plant. On Saturday, workers of the National Clothing Enterprise [Empresa Nacional del Vestido], Enaves, rallied at the concern's gates to express their disagreement with labor conditions. The Labor Ministry described this workers' action as "illegal," and ordered them dislodged from the premises, a state property.

This gave labor authorities an opportunity to remind the people, through an official bulletin, that, according to the national emergency law and the labor code, "occupation, strikes, and coercion" at labor centers "are illegal."

MICOIN ANNOUNCES CONSUMER PRODUCT QUOTAS

PA112344 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0300 GMT 10 Apr 86

[Communique issued by Public Relations Office of the Nicaraguan Domestic Trade Ministry, Micoin; in Managua on 9 April -- read by Micoin spokesman Maria Denia Salgado]

[Text] Micoin reports the following to all consumers:

1. Each person is entitled to receive the following items at our stores per month: 3 lbs of rice, 1 liter of cooking oil, 4 or more lbs of salt and one bar of soap. The consumer may purchase any quantity of salt he needs.

2. All consumers must demand that their corresponding store give them these amounts of the products by the end of each month, whether they pick them up weekly or twice monthly.

3. All complaints or problems in this regard must be reported to, or consulted with the consumer registry offices or the Micoin regional office.

[Signed] Micoin Public Relations Office

FSLN SEEKS ATLANTIC COAST AREA UNITY

PA092005 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1200 GMT 9 Apr 86

[Text] On 4 April, Subcommander Jose Gonzalez, FSLN delegate to Special Zone 1 in Puerto Cabezas, called for the establishment of true unity to attain peace on the Atlantic coast and complete the autonomy project. Subcommander Gonzalez evaluated the efforts made by various Indian communities, coastal organization leaders, religious leaders, and the FSLN, adding that this effort must not be divided, it must not be directed through the various commissions or ecumenical groups. A united effort must be made to strengthen the Atlantic coast's struggle for peace.

[Begin Gonzalez recording] The truth is that this process is very complex because the efforts to attain peace have been scattered. I believe that in the (?intelligence) sector, for example, Luis Miguel and Victor Ordonez, have made great efforts. However, I believe that the peace commissions, ecumenical groups, community leaders, and our Assembly Representative Hazel Lau must not continue to make scattered efforts. They must seek the creation of a truly united block for peace, the defense of autonomy, and the defense of a nation, because autonomy cannot be achieved with a political speech. Autonomy must have a solid economic base; it must have a great deal of awareness, education policies, respect among all sectors, and a patriotic attitude to defend what it seeks, to defend the people's rights within the framework of the revolution. [end recording]

Subcommander Gonzalez pointed out that the regional committee has agreed that this year talks will take place only if the mutual respect agreements, the cease-fire, respect for the people, the Armed Forces, and revolutionary power are observed by the sectors seeking peace.

[Begin recording] The regional committee has agreed that during 1986 talks will take place only if the mutual respect agreement is observed the people, the Armed Forces, and revolutionary power, and by the sectors that clearly identify their geographical location. This means that the [word indistinct] forces will establish a location to avoid confusion. If the [name indistinct] want to dialogue, they will also be established in a specific area. The rest of the areas where warmongering groups operate will face our permanent, systematic presence until we deal them a harsh blow and they give the people and the revolution a report of all of their actions.

In addition to this, we will take into account all of the vandalistic actions they have carried out. The autonomy project, the cease-fire, the dialogue, and the extensive possibilities the revolution offers are one thing; the activities of criminal and opportunist groups trying to create terror in the region are another. We will not tolerate pressure from any group in the interior. The Sandinist revolution establishes the rules of the game. The dialogue and cease-fire process demands that the groups, organizations, and sectors in the interior that are willing to participate in the process clearly establish their intentions. [end recording]

LATE REPORT: ATTACK ON LIBYA CONDEMNED

PA151249 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1206 GMT 15 Apr 86

[By Filadelfo Martinez]

[Text] Managua, 14 Apr (ACAN-EFE) -- The Nicaraguan Government today "strongly" condemned the "unjustifiable" attack carried out by U.S. planes against Libya, which it described as "premeditated." An official bulletin issued by the Foreign Ministry warned that this "new attack" by the United States "endangers world peace."

The Managua government noted that the bombing was "against populated areas in Tripoli" and that "it is totally unjustified." After condemning the attack on Tripoli, the Sandinists reiterated their solidarity with the Libyan people. The declaration states that the United States, "under the pretext of fighting terrorism, has launched this attack, exercising the most indiscriminate international terrorism."

The Foreign Ministry added that Washington ordered the bombing of targest in Tripoli's populated areas. The Foreign Ministry's bulletin said that the open use of force that has characterized the Reagan administration endangers the international community, and that the attack launched against Libya "has no justification whatsoever." The document added that this attack was only "due to the U.S. insistence on imposing its will over independent countries, in total disregard for international law."

The Foreign Ministry also said that "the U.S. action was absolutely unjustified, in view of the fact that days before Libya not only denied its responsibility, but even condemned the actions invoked by the Reagan administration to justify its attack." The bombing against Libya's capital, according to the Managua authorities was launched "without having any serious evidence supporting the accusations and attacks."

The declaration added that the United States has acted "irresponsibly" by ignoring the calls made by governments in the world, urging moderation and a peaceful solution to prevent a new escalation in the military tensions, which today have become a reality in the Mediterranean.

"In view of this situation, Managua, as a nonaligned country, expresses its solidarity with the Libyan people and issues a call to the international community to conduct efforts and demand from the United States a behavior consonant with the basic norms of international law. [quotation marks as received]

ANTI-SANDINIST GROUPS SUPPORT CONTRA AID

PA111453 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0355 GMT 11 Apr 86

[Text] San Jose, 10 Apr (ACAN-EFE) -- Anti-Sandinist peasant and war disabled organizations have asked President Ronald Reagan and the U.S. House of Representatives to approve the $100 million in aid for the contras.

The Nicaraguan Peasants Union and the war disabled, wounded, and ill [enfermos] committee, which according to communiques distributed in San Jose represent 100,000 Nicaraguans, have described the U.S. aid as "vital for freedom."

The Nicaraguans, members of ARDE, led by Commander Eden Pastora, have told Reagan that the U.S. aid is essential for the security of the countries of the continent that "feel threatened because of the excessive Cuban-Soviet influence on the Latin American mainland."

Also, the opponents of the Managua regime have urged the members of the U.S. House of Representatives to approve the aid requested by the head of the U.S. executive branch. It is the only way to prevent "the consolidation of a new catastrophe, like Cuba has been, for all Americans."

To justify their request, the peasant, war disabled, and anti-Sandinist youth leaders recalled that ARDE's leadership has made 16 calls for talks with the andinist government. These calls, they added, "have always been answered with more escalations of violence," and they are convinced that "the only alternative, to prove their love of freedom, is the way of arms."

BRIEFS

SOVIET GRAIN DONATION -- The USSR donates 500,000 tons of flour per year to Nicaragua, Henry Montano, national general director for foodstuffs of the Interior Trade Ministry, has reported. He indicated that this year the USSR will also send 25,000 tons of rice to Nicaragua, the first 10 tons of which are due to arrive in late April. [Summary] [Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 1300 GMT 11 Apr 86 PA]

SUGAR SHIPMENT FOR USSR -- Rivas -- The Soviet merchant vessel October Revolution leaves from the port of San Juan del Sur today loaded with 10.500 tons of sugar produced in the Benjamin Zeledon Sugar Mill in Rivas. [Summary] [Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 0000 GMT 9 Apr 86 PA]

BULGARIAN DONATION -- Yesterday 5,000 tons of wheat and 8.000 tires of different sizes arrived at the port of Corinto as a donation from the people of Bulgaria to the people of Nicaragua. Other donations consisting of 4,000 tons of powdered milk and butter were received as part of the world food program for the Sandinist revolution. [Excerpt] [Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 3 Apr 86 p 3B PA]

RODRIGUEZ CLOSES FIRST NATIONAL EXPORTS MEETING

FL142000 Havana Television Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 13 Apr 86

[Text] The words of Politburo member Carlos Rafael Rodriguez at the closing session of the first national exports meeting of the ministry of the Steelworking Industry can be described as significant because they reaffirm that the path followed in the rapprochement of the producers, suppliers, and sellers is the way to success in the export program.

[Begin recording] We are re-exporters of the petroleum which we import, which we conserve, and naturally the drop in the value of the dollar also affects us. Thus we have a series of phenonoma that affect our national economy in its external aspect, and therefore in its entire functioning.

We have to perform better and better, and we can say that we are working better and better. But we are still working less than we must, insufficiently, as has been pointed out in a recent speech familiar to everyone. We have to begin to struggle. All of us have to begin to struggle. If we do not all begin to struggle, we will not advance. Even if everyone does not do it we are all going to take it as our slogan. We have responsibilities to history, this is a country that has won in an epic struggle in a battle with imperialism that has lasted many long years. We were the only ones in Latin America, although we now have the company of Nicaragua.

We have strengthened ourselves militarily in such a way that the most rabid of the imperialists who have achieved power in the past 30 or 40 years -- Reagan -- has to think about it five times before he threatens Cuba with invasions, because he knows what the cost of any invasion would be.

We must never lower our guard so Reagan cannot forget that our guard is raised. We have progressed in ways that our third party congress has made known in numbers, in data, in figures. We have a program that our party and all the workers of our country are debating. It is a program of great perspective; that is, we have future security if we know how to compete. A mechanical interpretation of Marxism would consist of believing that social changes come about automatically under socialism. No, socialism costs blood and tears; it costs extraordinary efforts. Our people are willing to organize it, and all of us leaders have a commitment to history and to our commander in chief. The step we have taken today is a decisive one toward fulfillment of that commitment. Today for that reason we can shout, more convinced than ever: Fatherland or death! [applause] [end recording]

More on Closing Comments

FL142054 Havana Television Service in Spanish 1700 GMT 14 Apr 86

[Text] Every worker, every enterprise must work with the greatest efficiency and quality. These words were spoken by Carlos Rafael Rodriguez, Politburo member and vice president of the Councils of State and Ministers, at the closing session of the first national exports meeting of the Ministry of the Steelworking Industry.

One of the subjects he emphasized in a critical sense was the problem of quality, which is a collective one.

[Begin recording] The spirit of mutual criticism must not disappear. No one has the right to become angry because his problems and deficiencies are pointed out, although he does have the right to refute that criticism and to demonstrate that those difficulties and those deficiencies do not exist. But pointing out deficiencies and struggling for improvement must exist. [end recording]

Later, Carlos Rafael said:

[Begin recording] If the workers do not participate in the entire process, nothing will be achieved. The participation of the workers will not be determined principally by money payments and prizes, the problem of individual conscience must be involved in this, too. We must know that our exports will be better and better to the degree that the totality of national production improves. In a socialist economy, it is very hard for there to be an isolation in which you do not have at least 90 percent of the problems of quality resolved at the national level and are trying to resolve 100 percent of the problems at the export level. [as heard] [end recording]

In another part of his speech, he said:

[Begin recording] Therefore, I wonder which social system can use the participation of the workers as a collective to control quality better than the communist system. Because collective control of quality and the fact that every worker is concerned about quality, is an effort that has an immediate repercussion in the collective process. We have to find a new concept, a new idea, a new principle. I believe this essential. [end recording]

COMMENTARY ON U.S. 'ANTI-LIBYAN CAMPAIGN'

PA142225 Havana International Service in Spanish 2300 GMT 12 Apr 86

[Commentary by Angel Hernandez]

[Text] On the eve of the congressional debate on the granting of $100 million to the villains attacking Nicaragua, the U.S. Government is increasing its anti-Libyan campaign with the intention of not only destabilizing the transformation process headed by Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, but also encouraging exaggerated patriotism and chauvinism among the different sectors of American opinion. The goal of this double-dealing is to achieve majority support for the aggressions and Reagan's uncontrollable desire for combat readiness, even at the expense of sacrificing the poorest sectors in the United States, who see their social security funds cut while military expenditures are increased and counterrevolutionaries in every corner of the world receive aid.

In a recent speech, the Yankee President did not hesitate to insult Libya, and he again tried to blame that country for the latest terrorist actions in Western Europe. This topic, insistently repeated, is a fact of pressure that aims directly at the American people's feelings, and tries to kindle excessive patriotism and chauvinism as elements that will promote national support for the White House's aggressive power. It is an ancient tactic that Adolf Hitler, in his time, did not fail to use to promote, for example, the brutal invasion of Poland.

According to reports by the U.S. television network ABC, Reagan has already approved a new aggressive plan against Libya and has ordered the deployment of the aircraft carriers Coral Sea and America to Libya's coast. The Coral Sea was in a Spanish port, and the America was en route to Cannes on the French coast. The Coral Sea was scheduled to return to the United States shortly. Meanwhile, THE WALL STREET JOURNAL has reported that the United States views as new targets for possible attacks on Libya, its missile bases and its missile and combat plane storage facilities located at the north African nation's airports.

A ranking White House official told the newspaper that Reagan has not ruled out bombing Libya's oil and transportation industries. Meanwhile, a Pentagon official added that the U.S. Marines have a special flotilla prepared to attack Libyan targets if the U.S. President so orders.

The real reason behind the Yankee President's desire to relive the days of conflict in the Gulf of Sidra is because of Libya's undeviating position regarding aid to liberation movements and to Washington's need to create conflicts which, twisted by brutal imperialist propaganda, present the United States as a victim of international terrorism, and therefore justifies its arms buildup and its intentions to dominate the entire world. Therefore, it would not come as a surprise if in the next few days the Mediterranean again becomes -- thanks to the White House -- the site of renewed tension, even when these adventures threaten the security of Washington's own allies in that geographical region.

U.S. DECISION TO CONTINUE NUCLEAR TESTS VIEWED

PA150053 Havana International Service in Spanish 2300 GMT 12 Apr 86

[Commentary by Norberto Hernandez]

[Text] The White House press secretary has officially confirmed that Washington does not have the slightest intention of dropping its nuclear testing program, which it considers essential to the maintenance of the country's leadership in atomic power. This is the equivalent of stating that Ronald Reagan will continue with his warmongering plan on earth as well as in space, and that his government's only concern is to achieve the impossible: military supremacy over the USSR and the entire socialist bloc.

The White House announcement was made in the midst of a wave of protests in the United States and abroad, unleashed as a result of the U.S. nuclear test last Thursday. The U.S. newspaper THE NEW YORK TIMES and Senators Edward Markey, a Democrat, and Republican Mark Hatfield agreed that continuing the nuclear tests demonstrates the Reagan administration's irresponsibility in regard to denuclearization and limiting the arms race. Similar attitudes have been adopted by the media, and political and social personalities in Western Europe, Asia, Africa, and Latin America, who see in these tests the real danger of an international escalation of war in a world drowned by a violent economic crisis.

The Soviet Union, which since last August has implemented a unilateral moratorium on nuclear tests, gave the United States several opportunities to show its goodwill in this regard. After the Yankee nuclear test last Thursday, the USSR officially announced that it no longer is committed to the moratorium it had implemented up to that time, even though it is willing to discuss with Washington an immediate end to this kind of exercise, which is quite dangerous in every respect.

BRAVO WELCOMES SOVIET, GDR DELEGATIONS

FL141818 Havana Television Service in Spanish 1700 GMT 14 Apr 86

[Text] Flavio Bravo, Central Committee member and president of the National Assembly of the People's Government, has welcomed at Jose Marti International Airport the Soviet and GDR delegations which attended the IPU meeting in Mexico City. The Soviet delegation is headed by Avgust Voss, chairman of the Council of Nationalities of the USSR Presidium of the Supreme Soviet, and the East German delegation is headed by Dr Eberhard Poppe, vice president of that sister country's interparliamentary group. During their brief stay in our country, the visitors will tour Havana's historic area.